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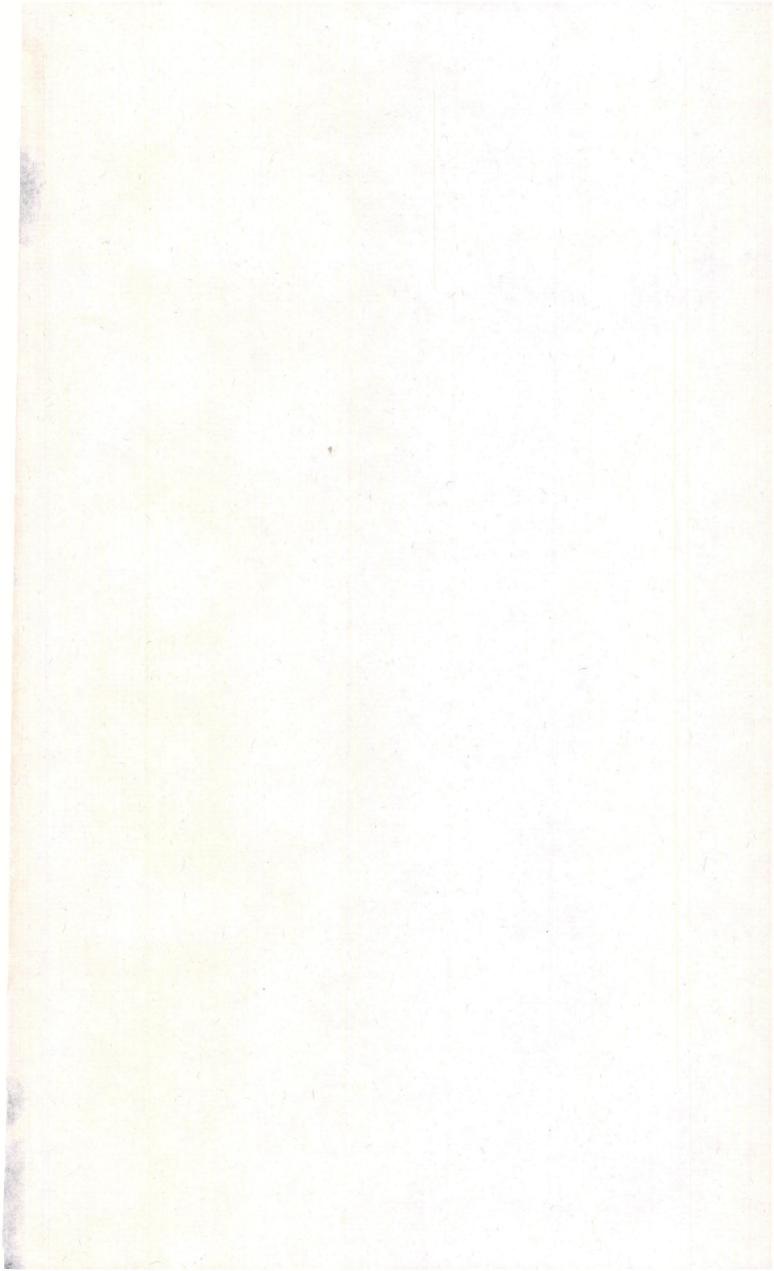


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ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE COLONIES 1897

> Colonies General 35



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State of the Colonies

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Report for 1895-96

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 177.

BAHAMAS. searching for 1895

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 139 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

September 1896.



LONDON:

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1896.

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BAHAMAS.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 139.)

Sir W. F. HAYNES SMITH to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Nassau,

July 8, 1896. SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of the annual Blue Book of the Bahama Islands for the year 1895 together with the report of the Colonial Secretary thereon. I have, &c.

W. F. HAYNES SMITH.

Newfoundland

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1895.

Financial.

At the commencement of the year 1895, in face of a prospective deficit, it became necessary to add to the sources of revenue and this was effec ed entirely by an increase of the import duties.

Specific duties on a large number of articles enumerated in the tariff were increased, especially those on wine, spirits and tobacco, whilst an ad valorem duty of 25 per cent. replaced the former duty of 20 per cent.

Although the new tariff came into force only on the 8th May, the receipts from import duties for the year were 45,783l., which, as compared with the receipts (39,0271.) of the year 1894, showed an increase of 6,756l. This increase, however, was not entirely due to the amendment of the tariff but largely to a general improvement in trade.

The receipts from other ordinary sources of revenue were maintained at the usual level, with, generally, some slight increase, only two items being worthy of special note, viz., liquor licenses, the receipts from which were nearly doubled and the receipts from the telegraph line between Nassau and Florida, owned by the Colony, which were increased by one-third.

The total revenue from ordinary sources was 55,6421., and that of the previous year 47,4921, showing an increase for 1895 of 8,627l. Wt. 20348.

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Ванамая. 1895. The deficit before mentioned was caused partly by expenditure which had not been foreseen and was unprovided for and partly by a falling off in the receipts from customs duties.

It was temporarily met by the issue of Treasury debentures to the amount of 10,000l., and by the borrowing of 1,000l. from

the Crown Land Fund.

The loan of 1,000l. was repaid in the course of the year, and debentures to the value of 5,000l. were also paid off and

cancelled.

The revenue, increased as it has been by the new tariff and also very considerably by the vigilance exercised in the collection of duties and the prevention of smuggling, is now fully equal to the repayment of all the floating debt as well as to providing for the administration of the Government, especially in such departments as those of Education, Public Works, Prisons and Charitable Institutions on a scale adequate to the most pressing needs.

The Public Debt of the Colony amounts to 124,126l., and the interest and sinking funds on the loans making up this debt form

an annual charge on the revenue of 7,652l.

Although heavy, this is not a crushing weight on its resources, and the Colony may in respect of its finances be said to have recovered a position of stable equilibrium.

Civil Establishment.

Sir William Frederick Haynes Smith, K.C.M.G., having been appointed Governor of the Colony in succession to Sir Ambrose Shea, K.C.M.G., arrived at Nassau on the 9th July.

The Colonial Secretary, Mr. George Melville, left the Colony on the 16th of June and was succeeded Mr. J. Spencer

Churchill.

Foreign Consuls.

Senor Pompeyo Diaz y Cossio was appointed Spanish Consul on the 4th of September.

Education.

Primary education is placed under the control of a Board of

Commissioners assisted by an official inspector of schools.

In their report to the Legislature of their proceedings during the year 1895, the Board states that "owing to the reduction "in the funds at the Board's disposal, no new responsibilities were assumed; the number of Board School's in operation was "therefore 41 as in the preceding year; they were attended

"therefore 41 as in the preceding year; they were attended during some portion of the year by 6,221 pupils; there were 5,460 names on the rolls at the end of the year; and the

" average attendance was 3,418.9."

The numbers on the rolls and the average attendance are both

slightly in excess of the numbers reported for 1894.

Besides the Board Schools there are nine schools which are privately conducted, but receive grants in aid of their local

BAHAMAN. 1895.

funds, and which have a nominal roll of 820 scholars with an

average attendance of 498.4.

There were formerly 13 schools of this class and the Inspector of Schools reports that, although they have failed in a few cases, owing to the indifference of the parents or incompetence of the teachers, on the whole they are reasonably successful.

The amount paid in salaries was 3,078l., in new buildings 393l., in books and furniture 400l., and in travelling allowances

100%

There were also rents of school buildings and other minor expenses, which, together with grants in aid, amounting in sum to 138l., raised the total of expenditure for the year to 4,472l. 10s.

Board Schools cannot be established in all the small and widely scattered settlements of this Colony without contracting an expenditure beyond the means at present at the disposal of the Board, but the cause of education receives the hearty support of all classes, and it is probable that with increased means succeeding years will witness considerable expansion of the system and larger results.

Provision for the higher education is to be found only in

Nassau where there are several excellent schools:

The Nassau Grammar School, The Queen's College, St. Hilda's School.

Agriculture.

The agricultural industry is next in importance to the sponge fisheries as a source of wealth to the Colony and is capable of

development on a considerable scale.

Both climate and soil are found to be well adapted for the growth of orange and lemon crops, pine apples, grape fruit, tomatoes, potatoes, and other vegetable produce, all of which might be sold at remunerative prices on the neighbouring continent.

With such a market within easy reach it would be natural to expect to find a well-established and permanent export trade in fruit and vegetables working with regularity.

That such a trade has never been organized is plainly to be seen, but to assign any precise causes for the evident failure would

be difficult.

Crops deficient in quantity or quality for lack of fertilizers properly used, picking when the fruit is not sufficiently matured, or sometimes when over-ripe, bad packing without any attempt at grading the fruit, and entire absence of concerted arrangements for bringing the fruit for shipment and forwarding by steam vessels to New York; all of these have certainly been in operation at times and any of them would account for a season of unremunerative prices, and the consequent loss to, and discouragement of, peasant proprietors, who are the principal growers.

0 93409.

BAHAMAS. 1895.

The destruction of the Florida orange groves by the severe frost of 1894 gave a great impetus to the export of oranges from the Bahamas and this fruit has fetched double its former prices and the necessity for improved methods of growing, packing, and shipping is obtaining increased recognition.

Dr. Morris, C.M.G., the Assistant Director of Kew Gardens, arrived at Nassau in December on a short visit to the Governor and during his stay he placed his large experience of tropical agriculture and his botanical knowledge at the service of the

In a series of interesting and instructive lectures delivered at Nassau and other places he passed in review the principal cultures for which these islands are suited, explaining the best methods of growing and gathering the crops and preparing for export.

His lectures were attended by crowded and appreciative audiences, and no doubt his visit will be productive of lasting

henefit to the Colony.

Mr. McCarty, a well-known scientific and practical agriculturist from Florida, has since been engaged in the service of the Government and is now at work on experimental cultivation and investigations for the purpose of ascertaining which kind of fertilizers are best suited to the soils of the Bahama Islands, which are described by him as "composed of disintegrated or decomposed " oolitic limestone of a coralline formation with the addition of " decayed vegetation of various kinds."

His researches are made available for public use by letters written to the local newspaper which will be published in

pamphlet form and distributed.

The Sisal plantations are doing well, but have not yet arrived at full maturity, most of the land planted with sisal having been taken up only within the last six years.

The principal seats of this new industry are the islands of Abaco, Andros, New Providence, Inagua, and Cat Island, and about

20,000 acres have been planted.

Many of the small growers who were engaged in this cultivation at the commencement made money by the sale of their young sisal plants, but the demand for these has died out, as the large plantations have become fully stocked and have established their own nurseries.

The people of the islands in which the plantations are situated have found their conditions of life improved by the employment given to them, and the industry bids fair to become a source of profit to the Colony at large, and Bahama hemp to become one of the principal staples of the Colonial trade.

Reverting to the subject of the fruit trade, it is worth while to notice that the steamers of the Ward Line have arranged this year to call at the island at Eleuthera during the pineapple season, and it remains to be seen whether growers and shippers can so combine their efforts as to ensure full cargoes and a continuance of this convenient arrangement.

In the matter of early shipments of pineapples it is probable that the Bahamas cannot rival Cuba and Jamaica owing to different climatic conditions and possibly other causes.

The first shipment of this year, consisting of 902 barrels, arrived at New York on the 17th May, and at that date 39,884 barrels

had already been received from Havana.

But the supplies to the New York fruit market from Cuba and Florida are likely to be deficient in quantity this year, and the Bahamas shipments will probably meet with a ready sale and good prices, and the trade which declined to a very low ebb in 1895 may experience a revival.

Trade and Shipping.

There is little change to be noticed either in the volume or direction of the Colonial trade.

The estimated total value of the imports and exports in 1895 and the preceding year were as follows:—

doidw Sasaan	of containing maintenance to street and the street and the containing the contain	1895.	1894. IB PRINCE
lo noi	Imports shai-	£ 172,581	£ 174,969
letteral	Exports	124,011	119,378

Nearly three-fourths of the total trade is with the United States, and the remainder, with very small exception, with the United Kingdom, the exact proportions being:—

	Ins and the land, and	Imports from	Exports to	rothi.
noijey	United States	£ 118,817	£ 89,702	Man t the
Tient	United Kingdom	45,040	16,301	ilg Lee

Articles liable to specific duties, including malt liquors, spirits, wines, oils, flour and all kinds of food-stuffs, were imported from the United States to the value of 81,126l., and from the United Kingdom to the value of 8,768l.

Those subject to ad valorem duties, such as hardware, textile fabrics, boots and shoes, and some other manufactures were imported from the United States to the value of 46,414*l.*, and from the United Kingdom to the value of 27,360*l.* Imports of this class are not separated in the Blue Book returns, and it cannot therefore be shown in what class of manufactured goods trade with the United Kingdom may have increased or the reverse.

BAHAMAS. 1895. Bahamas, 1895. The subjoined table will show the relative value of the principal exports in 1895 and the preceding year:—

estra la sua	bote.	v le	Va	lue.
Articles expo		rkk of	1895.	1894.
leved by the	leg i	STUT	£	£
Bahama hemp	-	-	3,987	1,728
Cascarilla bark	-	-	1,066	544
Cotin	12	1,00	289	907
Pineapples -	WI		22,784	42,568
ranges -	Mar.	-	4,908	580
Other fruit -		-	1,118	500
Sponge -	-	-	67,561	59,155

The shipping returns for 1895 show the total aggregate tonnage of all sailing vessels entering or clearing with cargoes, or in ballast, to have been 54,308 tons, of which 26,874 were British and 27,434 foreign.

By comparison with the returns for 1894 they indicate an increase of trade and a slight predominance of foreign vessels for in that year the total aggregate tonnage was only 47,665 tons,

of which 24,911 were British and 22,754 foreign.

The greatest part of the carrying trade is done by sailing vessels, the only steam vessels engaged in it being the s.s. "Antilia," owned in Nassau, and those of the Ward Line subsidized to carry mails and passengers between Nassau and New York.

The latter anchor outside the harbour and freight has to be

transhipped to lighters.

Steam vessels call frequently at Inagua, the most southerly island of the Pahamas group, principally for the purpose of

engaging labourers to load and unload cargo.

The vessels of the "Peoples Line" and of the "Clyde Line" plying between New York and Hayti call every month on the outward and homeward voyages. Also steamers known as mahegany ships, plying between Boston and ports on the Mosquito coast, call at Inagua for labourers on contract once every six weeks. Also at the island of Long Cay steamers of the "Atlas Line," plying between New York, Jamaica, Hayti and South American ports, call once a week homeward and outward bound.

Grants of Land.

The demand for grants of Crown land in 1895 diminished. There were 38 grants and only 395 acres were disposed of, whilst in the previous year there were 66 grants to a total of 1,132 acres granted.

The Surveyor-General's returns show a total of 1,779,7073 acres still unalienated, and of land sold up to the present time

338,4291 acres.

General Remarks.

Ванамаs. 1895.

A hurricane passing northwards from the Gulf in the month of October was felt rather severely on the islands lying to the north and west, especially Grand Bahama and Biminis, where the inhabitants suffered considerable loss by the destruction of their houses and provision grounds.

Their immediate necessities were relieved by the despatch of

flour and other food stuffs from Nassau.

Those islands are more exposed to storms than the islands which lie to the eastward, and in 1894 the people had suffered in the same way and a sum of 1,294l. had been spent in measures for their relief.

The insurrection in Cuba, and the facilities which so many uninhabitable cays and islands afford for the concealment of depots of arms and ammunition intended for the use of the insurgent forces, made it necessary to take precautions to prevent, as much as possible, any such breaches of the neutrality laws. Accordingly one of Her Majesty's ships was stationed in these waters during the greater part of the year, and, several depôts of rifles and ammunition having been discovered on uninhabited cays, the contents were all brought to Nassau and confiscated.

Twenty-one armed persons of Cuban and Spanish nationality landed at the island of Inagua from a steamer which was prose-

cuting her regular voyage from New York to Hayti.

Their purpose of proceeding to Cuba to act against the Spanish Government was so evident that, H.M.S. "Partidge" arriving at Inagua shortly after their landing, they were conveyed on board that ship to Nassau where they were placed on their trial

and eventually acquitted.

No restriction was placed on their personal liberty during their detention in Nassau, and after their acquittal they went back to the United States by the mail steamer. The extension of Mr. Flagler's system of railroads and hotels to Palm Beach, Florida, suggested the possibility of making Nassau more available as a winter resort for American tourists by running a first-class steam vessel between the two places.

The members of the Assembly having agreed to a subsidy of 100l. a week for eleven weeks a contract was entered into and the s.s. "Northumberland" of 1,255 tons register, fitted to carry 60 first-class passengers, was placed on the line and made her

first trip on the 15th January in the present year.

The subsidy was for one trip per week, but the vessel continued running, making three trips each way nearly every week, until the

9th of April, when the service closed for the season.

The success of this experiment fully justified the expectations which had been formed of it, the passages each way being made with regularity and within the contract time, fourteen hours, and the number of passengers was even larger than was hoped for.

During the season this vessel carried 800 passengers.

BAHAMAS. 1895.

The year was unfortunately distinguished by the total wreck of the "Ciensuegos," one of the two steamers of the Ward Line which ply between New York and Cuba, calling at Nassau each way, fortnightly.

The vessel was stranded on Egg Island Reef in calm weather, and a calm sea on a coast which, whatever may have been its bad repute in former days, is now fully guarded by light-houses at the

charge of the Government.

The wreck occurred in the month of February, at the time when many of the passengers were Americans proceeding to Nassau to spend the winter season. No lives were lost, but the passengers experienced much hardship by exposure to the elements, bad lodging, and food before they could be carried to Nassau, and also by loss of baggage.

This accident, by the fears which it inspired as to the safety of travellers by the Ward Line steamers, doubtless lessened the number of winter visitors and was consequently the occasion of loss to the large class of persons who profit by their expenditure.

June 28, 1896.

J. SPENCER CHURCHILL, Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS .- ANNUAL.

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BAHAMAS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

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1897.

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173	Barbados	14:00-7 10 1,00
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	- ,,
175	Falkland Islands	- "
176	St. Helena -	- "
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178	Hong Kong	- "
179	Windward Islands -	we de la "
180	Labuan -	" "
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No. 193.

Ванамав. 1896.

BAHAMAS.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 177.)

Governor Sir W. F. HAYNES SMITH to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Nassau,

SIR, May 22, 1897.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Annual Blue Book of the Bahama Islands for the year 1896, together with a report thereon from the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

W. F. HAYNES SMITH.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1896.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for the year 1896 amounted to 65,126l, which, as compared with the revenue for 1895 (56,642l.), shows an increase of nearly 10,000l.

This increase was due mainly to increased receipts from customs duties, as the higher tariff rates passed in May 1895 had their full effect only in 1896; but it was partially due also to an increase in the volume of the Colonial trade.

The expenditure for the year 1896 was 60,134l., which, as compared with that of 1895 (55,758l.), shows an increase of nearly 5,000l.

The increased charges principally accounting for this total increase may be stated as follows:—On account of public debt, 1,196l.; subsidy to Florida mail service, 1,200l.; charitable, 566l.; public works, 2,273l.

A surplus of 5,000*l*. revenue was left at the close of the year and became available for the service of the year 1897.

Public Debt.

By the Act 58 Victoria, chapter 1, passed in March, 1895, the Government was authorised to raise, by the issue of debentures, any sum not exceeding 10,000l. and, accordingly, in 1896, as the necessity arose, the Government under the authority of the abovementioned Act and of the amending Act, 59 Victoria, chapter 3,

o 97930. Wt. 20408.

BAHAMAS. 1896.

of 1896, issued debentures to the amount of 6,000l. through the agency of the Crown Agents, for the redemption of which a sum of 8721. will be annually set aside out of the general revenue,

commencing with the present year, 1897.

During the past year also a sum of 1,196l. was taken out of the general revenue and set aside as the first instalment of a sinking fund, to be continued in this and following years, for the redemption of 5,000l. debentures issued in this Colony, being the unredeemed portion of the loan of 10,000l. raised under Act 57 Victoria, chapter 13, in the year 1894, for the redemption of which no provision had hitherto been made.

The total debt is 119,626l, of which 11,000l. has been raised since 1894 in aid of revenue, and for the extinction of this part of the debt in the course of a very few years ample provision has

now been made.

Public Works.

Excepting for a new road at Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera, and the construction of a new building to be used as a public library and school-room at that place, there were no works of any

special character undertaken during the year.

The increase of expenditure in the Public Works Department, which amounted to 2,273l., as compared with that of 1895 is attributable to the fact that larger sums were granted by the Legislature for the ordinary repairs of roads and buildings, both of which had been neglected in 1895 owing to financial difficultie.

The largest items of this increased expenditure were as follows: - New road at Governor's Harbour, 1401.; new building at same place, 250l.; repairs to roads in Harbour Island, 250l.;

increase of grant for road repairs in San Salvador, 441.

The vote for general works in Nassau, also, was largely increased for 1896, the chief items being for roads, lighthouses, Government House, public buildings and Royal Victoria Hotel, on which, respectively, the following sums were expended in the course of the year:-Road repairs, 1,2971; lighthouses, 3171.; Government House, insurance and repairs, 1471.; public buildings, insurance and repairs, 84l; Royal Victoria Hotel, insurance and repairs, 163l.

an gaiwods , 1000, 121 of Legislation. The principal work of the session of the Legislature in 1896 was the consolidation of the laws relating to magistrates and to the Superior Courts.

By the "Magistrates Act 1896" and the "Supreme Court Act, 1896," 45 Acts are removed from the Statute Book; whilst of

those which remain, 218 sections have been repealed.

Council and Assembly.

At the close of the session of 1896 the septennial period for which the Assembly had been elected expired, and writs were issued for new elections, all to squar taugura laneu out to sessol bas

As the result of these elections, 19 members of the former BAHAMAS. Assembly were re-elected and 10 seats were filled by new members.

1896

The Council, consisting of nominated members, experienced no change. Ist saw Jaci, I to mue a cala taev tang edi paran

the general revenue and set saide that the first instalment of a sinking fund, to be continued noith and following years, for the The expenditure on primary education for 1896 amounted to

One new school was opened near Mastic Point, Andros Island, raising the number of board schools to 42; the number of children on the rolls being 5,575, and the average attendance 3,689.3.

There were 10 denominational schools open during the year and receiving grants in aid, with 929 children enrolled and an average attendance of 591.9.

The totals for the whole Colony were: -6,504 children on the

rolls, with an average attendance of 4,281.2.

The numbers are greater than those given for 1895 by 124 and 363.9 respectively, and, with one exception, are considerably

in advance of any previously reported.

Quoting further from the report of the Board of Education, it appears that "the grants paid to the Board during the year and " the salaries of the officers not paid out of those grants give an " average of about 881. 12s. 1d. for each school."

The cost of each pupil on the rolls would be about 14s. 2d., and of each one in average attendance 11. 1s. $6\frac{1}{2}d$., and "these " sums include cost of buildings, furniture, books and materials and " administration, as well as the ordinary working expenses of the " schools."

Imports and Exports.

The value of imports in 1896 was 194,7741, whilst the imports in 1895 were valued at 172,281l., showing an increase during the past year of about 22,500l.

There were increased quantities imported of food-stuffs, cigars, coffee, corn, hay, dressed lumber, salt meat, and shingles, and

bicycles to the value of 2,000l. were also imported.

The value of the exports in 1896 was 139,000l., whilst the exports in 1895 did not exceed in value 124,000l., showing an increase in the value of exports in 1896, as compared with 1895. of 15,000 less transpage of

The out-put of sisal fibre was nearly doubled, being 441 tons as against 242 tons in 1895. Increased quantities of grape fruit, tomatoes, salt, sponge, turtle shell, and logwood were exported.

There was a decrease in the quantities exported of cotton, bananas, oranges, pine-apples and pine-apple slips.

not horse of the session of Agriculture. oises out to esolo ed the

Drought was experienced from the month of May to September and losses of the usual August crops of Indian and Guinea corn, Ванамая.

sweet potatoes, peas, and beans were reported from the islands of Exuma, Rum Cay, Watling's and San Salvador, causing temporary distress, which was relieved, where necessary, by forwarding supplies of food-stuffs from Nassau.

From the district of Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera, the largest fruit centre in the Bahamas, the pine-apple cultivation is reported to be increasing, although the average price received in

the season of 1896 was only 33 cents per dozen.

At this price, however, large growers are able to make a substantial profit.

The cultivation of sisal plantations is abandoned in some places,

whilst in others it is reported to be on the increase.

From the two plantations at Inagua only 50 tons of fibre were prepared and shipped in 1896, work being suspended owing

to low market prices.

The Iuagua Sisal Company, also, has a flourishing plantation of one thousand acres on the island of San Salvador, which gave employment to many people in that island during the year and so mitigated the effects which the drought would otherwise have had upon them by the destruction of their ground provisions.

Encouraged by this company working in their midst, small proprietors of land have planted out 250 acres in sisal, of which

100 acres were planted in the course of last year.

At Abaco, also, the "Sisal Fibre Company" continues

operations on a plantation of 5,000 acres.

The prospects for this new industry are now becoming more defined, and although it has absolutely failed to fulfil the anticipations once formed for it there seems to be less reason to fear that it will die out altogether and some reason to hope that it may in time become a small but well-established industry, returning fair profits to those engaged in it and giving a much-needed variety to the Colonial products, which at present are all included in the sponge and fruit trades.

Postal and Telegraph Statistics.

The Superintendent of Telegraphs reports that the Government telegraph cable line from Nassau to Jupiter, Florida, continued in excellent condition throughout the year, as shown by the weekly electrical test and the every-day work performed.

During the winter season a reduction of 50 per cent. in the charges was made, which continued until April 15th, and the revenue of the department showed a considerable increase during

those months.

The number of messages which were received and sent during the year was 2,833, of which 346 were exchanged with the United Kingdom and 2,337 with other places, and 150 were Government messages.

The receipts for the year amounted to 1,068l., showing a decrease,

as compared with the year 1895, of 336l

The Post Office revenue for 1896 was (omitting fractions) 2,358l., showing an increase of 420l. as compared with the receipts of 1895.

BAHAMAS. 1896.

7

The increase was occasioned by the increased sale of stamps, partly for postal purposes and partly to meet the demand from dealers and stamp collectors.

There was an increase of about 20 per cent, in the number

of foreign postal packets in 1896.

The total number of postal packets passing through the Post Office was 294,356, which, as compared with the total for 1895,

which was 245,897, shows an increase in 1896 of 48,459.

From the 7th February to 9th April 1896, a mail service was maintained between Palm Beach, Florida, and Nassau, and during that period 60,774 postal packets were received and despatched, whilst the number for the corresponding period of 1895 was only 37,823, showing an increase in the postal business, due to the increased postal facilities of that period, of 22,951.

May 15, 1897

J. S. CHURCHILL, Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.-ANNUAL.

No. 199.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895 see No. 173.)

Presented to both Woulds of Warttament by Command of Wer Masfesty.



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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

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1897.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colo	ony.				Year.
171	Gibraltar 200	RBA	AH.	X		1895
172	Malta		-	•		"
173	Barbados -	281 501	Report	40H)	1 -	"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	-			-	99
175	Falkland Islands -	-				"
176	St. Helena -		-	-	-	"
177	Bahamas	-	-	-		99
178	Hong Kong -	regul	I +nef	10.197	00-0	99
179	Windward Islands	-	-	-	-	,,
180	Labuan	•	-	•	-	>>
181	Trinidad and Tobago	-		-	-	22
182	Seychelles	Toral T	At the	and ad		"
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	00000	•		-	1894 and
	The state of the s					1895
184	British Honduras -	•	•	•	-	1895
185	Lagos	-				"
186	Basutoland -	-		-	-	1895-96
187	Ceylon	-	•	•	-	1895
188	British Guiana -	4			37.5	1895-96
189	Gold Coast -	-	-	•	•	1895
190	Jamaica	- 11	H.rec	moth.	100 J	1895-96
191	Canada	•		-	-	1895
192	Bermuda -				-	1896
193	Bahamas	-	-	-		>>
194	Zululand	n-syen	7 Reniu	arlo son	wolls:	"
195	Gambia	-	-	•	-	"
196	Malta	-	4.1		Thur.	"
197	British New Guinea	LIVEN SU		and sens	100	1895-9
198	Turks and Caicos Islands	-	10 -50	noin-au	mert.	1896

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.			Subject.		
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Gold Coast Zululand - Sierra Leone Canada Bahamas Hong Kong Newfoundland Western Pacific	ne el sed el son el se who	of rac	Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany. Emigration. Sisal Industry. Bubonic Plague. Mineral Resources. Solomon Islands.		

No. 199.

BARBADOS. 1896.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 173.)

Acting Governor LE HUNTE to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Barbados, May 26, 1897.

May 26, 1897.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of this Colony, together with the report thereon for 1896.

I have, &c.

G. RUTHVEN LE HUNTE.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1896.

Taxation.

- 1. The following changes were made under this head:—
 - (a.) Import Duties.—On the 23rd of June an addition of 20 per cent. on the customs duties was imposed to meet the requirements of the expenditure. The additional amount received by the increase was 7,470l. A completely revised tariff was passed in November to come into operation on the 1st of January 1897 (the tariff given in the Blue Book is that one). The new tariff is estimated to produce an increase of 20,000l. on the customs receipts for 1895 (74,000l.).
 - (b.) Excise.—On the 23rd of June also the excise duty on rum manufactured and consumed in the Island was raised from 1s. 10d. to 2s. 6d. per gallon. The additional amount received from the increased rate was 3,400l.

All the other items of taxation remained unchanged; they are given in detail in the Blue Book and in the Blue Book Report for 1894.

o 97980. Wt. 20408.

Barbados. 1896.

Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

2. The estimated revenue from all sources for £ 1896 was - - - 168,352

The receipts from all sources for the year were 185,532l.; but this includes 8,500l. advanced from the funds of the Waterworks Department leaving the nett amount received from revenue proper,

177,032

or 8,680

above the estimate.

There was, however, an anticipated deficit on the estimates of 12,816l., and to meet this in the month of June the Customs tariff was raised by the addition of 20 per cent. on the duties, and the Excise by the increase of the duty from 1s. 10d. to 2s. 6d. per gallon; the result being an increase in the receipts under both heads of 15,870l.

Up to the 31st May the revenue receipts (exclusive of 2,000l. borrowed from the Waterworks Department) were 76,917l. as against 64,007l. for the same period in 1895, the principal increase being under Customs, 6,766l.

Up to the 31st of December the Customs receipts were 104,191l. as against 82,529l. for 1895, and eliminating the additional amount which was due to the increase, 20 per cent., viz., 7,470l., it leaves a nett balance of 14,192l. in favour of the Customs receipts for 1896 over those for 1895. This would have been even larger had it not been that a revised tariff was passed in November to come into force on the 1st of January 1897 and holders of articles in bond which would pay a lighter duty under the new tariff naturally held them back as far as possible.

The general increase in the revenue was consequent on the increase in the output of sugar during the year 1896, the export being 49,400 tons against 36,451 tons in 1895, and the fair prospect of still further improvement as far as production goes in 1897. The prospect of improvement in price was unfortunately not so good.

The only item of revenue which shows a continued and marked falling off is Excise, the receipts being 1,540*l*. below the estimate in spite of the increased rate of duty in June, which produced 3,400*l*. If this be deducted from the total receipts for the year under this head, 27,460*l*., it gives 24,060*l*. against 25,666*l*. for 1895, although wages were more plentiful in 1896 than 1895. It is certain that the consumption of alcoholic liquor by the working classes here is decreasing, and credit must be given to the work of the religious and temperance societies here.

3. The following are the receipts under the principal heads of revenue for the past six years:

BARBADOS. 1896.

1. Tol 88	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
Customs - Customs	£ 99,779	£ 92,340	£ 94,480	£ 94,244	£ 82,529	£ 104,191
Port and harbour - beans	4,686	4,299	4,614	4,234	3,239	3,787
Excise	25,298	28,919	32,553	29,422	25,666	27,461
Licenses · · · mon ·	7,066	6,249	6,169	6,473	6,012	5,569
Police tax	3,644	6,331	3,899	3,619	3,603	3,880
Fees and fines and fees of office	5,772	6,049	5,758	5,624	4,671	5,547
Post Office	5,832	7,909	6,020	6,732	6,594	7,218
Miscellaneous	11,828	10.567	8,237	10,276	7,734	9,052
Waterworks	deficit	bemgis	ita <u>s</u> or	Te A SA	6,267	10,327
Totals -	163,905	162,663	161,730	160,624	146,315	177,032
Temporary advance					d by th	8,500
					1, the 1	185,532

Expenditure.

4. The total expenditure was estimated at - 181,168

The actual expenditure was - - 184,020

An apparent increase of 32,000*l*. over 1895. This, however, was due for the greater part to the salaries and other amounts for December 1895 being paid in January 1896; and as those for December 1896 were paid in that month and included in their own year the apparent expenditure for 1896 really covered 13 months instead of 12.

The Waterworks Department Expenditure for 1896 (exclusive of construction, which is paid by loan) appears to be 19,801%. over that for 1895. This is accounted for partly by the fact that the Government only took over the waterworks in April 1895. The first half year's interest and sinking fund on the loan (375,000l.) amounting to 8,437l. 10s. was paid out of the premium received on the issue of the inscribed stock but does not appear under the head of expenditure in the published accounts for 1895 as it properly should have done. It is referred to and explained by the Auditor-General in the financial statement for 1896. The result of this is that the expenditure of the department shows an undue increase for 1896 over 1895 which should have included the 8,437l., making the real increase 11,364l. (19,801l. against 12,654l.) for two half-years' interest and sinking fund instead of one, and for the extra period of current cost of maintenance and departmental expenses.

6

BARBADOS. 1896.

Of the total expenditure for the year, 184,020l., 81,495l. came under the head of ordinary and fixed expenditure, and 23,525l. under contingent expenditure.

Assets and Liabilities.

5. The total liabilities on the 31st of December (exclusive of loans which are treated under the head of public debt) were 9,956l., of which 8,500l. was an advance from the Waterworks Loan Fund to the general revenue under the authority of Act No. 4 and is repayable at any time that it is required for the waterworks construction.

The assets were 7,428l.

Public Debt.

6. The public debt of the Colony on the 31st of December 1896 amounted to 405 100l.; 375 000l. for Waterworks Loan (1894) and 30,100l. for Public Works (1881).

The amounts to the credit of the sinking funds were respectively,

Waterworks Loan 5,365l. and Public Works Loan 14,750l.

Military Expenditure.

7. The return of military expenditure shows that out of a total of 93,762l. spent by the Imperial Government on the garrisons of Barbados and St. Lucia, 62,508l. was spent on Barbados, about two thirds of which represents the amount of money circulated in the Colony by the presence of the troops here: all of which will be lost to the Island upon their removal to St. Lucia.

Public Works.

8. No new work of any importance was undertaken during the year out of general revenue. The blasting and dredging of the Careenage was continued, to improve its utility for berthing larger vessels.

The total expenditure for the various works and repairs

amounted to 4,762l.

The construction and extension to the rural districts of the waterworks has progressed satisfactorily under the Waterworks Department. An important reservoir at "Hanson" is practically complete and another at Fort George commenced. Filter beds were laid down in Cole's Cave Gully. From the commencement of the works by the Government in 1895 up to the 31st of December 1896 45 miles of pipes have been laid and 210 standpipes brought under supply in the rural districts.

The total expenditure from the Waterworks Loan, including

stores up to the 31st of December was 35,206l.

Legislation.

BARBADOS. 1896.

9 Fifty-one Acts were passed in 1896. Only three of these require any special remark in this report; they were for the most part amendments to existing laws

part amendments to existing laws.

No. 4 authorised the Government to draw a temporary advance not exceeding 18,000l., for purposes of the general revenue, from moneys lying to the credit of the Waterworks Construction

Account, but not immediately required.

No. 19 is an important Act, as it provides for prospective retrenchment in nearly every department of the Civil Service of the Colony from the Governor down. The reduction of salary, or abolition of offices, in some cases, will take effect as the present office becomes vacant. The total amount by which the establishments will be reduced when the Act is in full operation is 7,241*l*.

No. 34 enacts the revised tariff now in force.

Political Franchise.

10. The total number of electors registered was 2,341. There is nothing special to report under this head or under that of councils and assemblies.

Establishments.

11. The Colonial Secretary was absent on leave from July to November, during which time Mr. E. T. Grannum, Auditor-General, acted as Colonial Secretary, and Mr. Bailey as Auditor-General.

Pensions.

12. The total amount of the pension list was 3,103l., against 2,768l. for 1895. There were no additions or reductions from the rension list of amounts of 100l. or upwards.

Foreign Consuls.

13. No alteration under this head.

Population and Vital Statistics.

14. The general health of the island was good during the year. Rain was plentiful and native products—yams, sweet potatoes, &c. abundant. 7,036 baptisms were registered and 4,937 burials. The birth rate was 38.6 per 1,000 of the population, and the death rate 27.1. This is below the average of the last five years, even taking into account the abnormally high rate in 1894 (34.40).

15. In the report for 1895 under this head, par. 24, the report of the Emigration Commission is referred to, and it was stated the recommendations which the Executive might decide to submit to

BARBADOS. the Legislature which were then under consideration would be mentioned in this year's report. They are as follows:—

(1.) That a central emigration office be established in Barbados through which, or under whose supervision, the whole business of emigration shall pass, whether assisted by the Government or in the hands of private emigration agents.

(2.) That branch agencies be established in such islands as may be found advisable for carrying out the business of finding employment for labourers, or settlements of emigrants on lands, to work under and in connexion with the central department.

(3.) That assistance be rendered by the Government to certain classes of persons desirous or willing to emigrate under the conditions which may be arranged through the central office and its agents.

(4.) That where emigrants are enabled to acquire lands with Government assistance, arrangements are to be made for securing to the Government the repayment of a portion of the outlay involved.

(5.) That improved steam communication should be obtained between this island and the islands to which the emigrants from here are sent.

(6.) That facilities for remitting money by the emigrants to their relations or dependants here be afforded them.

The estimated cost of carrying out the scheme will be:—

he estimated cost of carrying out the s	cheme	e wiii c	£
1. Cost of Emigration Department in	Barb	ados -	400
2. Agencies abroad	-	-	600
3. Assistance to emigrants -	-	-	2,800
4. Subsidy to steam communication	•		300
Total			4,100

The whole of which, less a sum of 950l. contributed by the parochial vestries for assistance to emigrants, would have to be borne by the general revenue.

16. The Legislature was asked to vote 200l. for the salary for the head of the Emigration Department, but this necessary initial step met with opposition on the ground that it was unnecessary and not desired by the people, and the resolution after being passed with difficulty in the House of Assembly, was not even seconded in the Legislative Council. For the time (i.e., while labour is plentiful and food cheap and abundant) therefore the proposed scheme is in abeyance. It is hoped, however, that under more favourable circumstances this may receive better consideration, for it is a safeguard against what may become a very serious contingency should hard times and bad years deprive the bulk of the working population of employment, in which case, as very nearly happened in 1894, the Government would

suddenly find themselves confronted with a problem which they will have to solve without time and, very possibly, without the means of coping with it; while a little care and forethought and experience gained by the gradual introduction of an organised system of emigration, such as was recommended, would enable them to meet the difficulty without anxiety and save the inevitable waste of money which almost invarably accompanies forced and unprepared action in public as well as private concerns.

BARBADOS. 1896.

Savings Bank.

17. The number of depositors at the end of the year was 11,661, against 11,188 for 1895; the amount to their credit 190,526l., of which 89,407l. had been deposited during the year.

The invested funds amount to 197,305l.

The Bank allows interest at 3 per cent., and limits a depositor to 300l. maximum and 1s. minimum. The average percentage of depositors is 6.2 of the population, and the average amount to the credit of each depositor is about 15l. 15s. The amount paid to the depositors for interest was nearly 5,000l.

Friendly Societies.

18. The number of friendly societies on the register was 164, having a total of 10,490 members and 3,214l. returned as invested funds.

Ecclesiastical.

19. The annual charge on the public revenue under this head is for the Anglican Establishment 10,000l. and Denominational Grants 1,150l.

Education.

20. The annual expenditure under this head amounts, with very little variation, to a little over 16,000l. a year, of which about 10,000l. is spent on the elementary schools, of which there were 188 at work with a total average attendance of 15.017 children, 8.3 of the population. An epidemic of measles which went through the island during the year, and the large number of wet days, interfered materially with the number of attendances. The average attendance for 7 years is 16,000, or about 9 per cent. of the whole population. In England and Wales the attendance in 1895 was 14 per cent. and in British Guiana, with compulsory education, the attendance in 1895, the highest ever attained there, was less than 6 per cent. of their population.

One hundred and eighty-three schools were examined; 20,673 were present and 16,218 were examined, 5,900 premiums were awarded.

BARBADOS. 1896.

Higher Grade Schools.

Harrison Coilege.—The numbers at the end of 1896, 150, show an increase on 1895. The preparatory form which enables parents to send their children to school at a very early age and at a reduced fee shows an increasing appreciation of this advantage on the part of the parents.

The Lodge School had an average attendance of 48, the numbers falling from 54 during the first term to 42 in the third, due partly to depression in the financial condition of the island, especially in the country, where this school is, and also to changes in the staff which for a time dislocated the work of the school.

The governing body report favourably on the whole of the

Lodge School.

Combernere School maintained its average number and standard of examination.

Queen's College (girls) increased in numbers and efficiency and gained more honours in the Cambridge Local (senior and junior) Examination than any girls' school in Her Majesty's Colonies.

The head mistress pointed out the great want of some exhibitions for girls whose parents have to remove them for want of means to keep them at the college just at the time when they are most fitted for, and most require the completion of, their education.

The Alexandra School (girls) is making satisfactory progress

in every way.

21. The report of the Education Commission appointed in 1894 was presented in 1896. The main recommendations of the majority are:—

(1.) The re-construction of the Central Education Board and the creation of parochial school boards for the immediate management and supervision, &c. of the schools in their parishes subject to the general control of the Central Board.

(2.) The reduction in the number of elementary schools from 188 to 166 (an average of one per square mile of the

Island).

(3.) The entire abolition of the few remaining combined schools of the old type *i.e.* with scholars of both sexes and of all ages from 4 to 18 and the substitution throughout of the new combined school for each sex separately and divided into "infant" and "primary."

(4.) The present system of payment of the teachers by results, for a pass in each subject separately, is strongly condemned, and the payment by general results having regard to attendance, discipline, and efficiency of teaching as well as the number of passes in excess of the minimum required, is recommended.

(5.) The establishment of a much-needed training institution

for teachers.

(6.) The establishment of an industrial school, with especial view to save the increasing semi-criminal juvenile population of Bridgetown and its suburbs.

BARBADOS. 1896.

The Commission estimates the cost of the elementary schools under the proposed revised system at 10,210*l*, exclusive of the cost of the Departmental officers, secretary, inspectors, &c. for a total average attendance of 16,600 scholars, and at 12,640*l*. for a total average attendance of 23,550, which limit would not be attained for a long time.

The report is now being considered by the Executive and Legislature and whatever may be finally adopted will form a subject for the report on 1897.

Imports and Exports.

22. The total imports of the Colony in 1896 amount to 1,048,887l., of which 467,649l. came from the United Kingdom, 181,644l. from British Colonies, and 399,554l. from foreign countries.

A comparison with the average of the previous five years 1891-95 shows:—

Year.		Total.		United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries	
1891	•		-	£ 1,067,617	£ 432,637	£ 207,186	£ 427,794
1892		-	-	1,081,572	469,318	195,855	416,399
1893			-	1,372,537	583,086	254,404	535,047
1894		-	-	1,279,335	507,534	227,514	544,287
1895		-	-	956,921	391,434	184,154	381,333
Ave	rage for	5 year	s -	1,151,596	476,802	213,823	460,972
1896	a di te		-	1,048,887	467,649	181,644	399,554
Belo	ow the av	erage	-	102,709	9,153	32,179	61,418
Abo	ve 1895		2-1	91,966	76,215	ovore—very	18,221
Belo	w 1895	4/1/1	-			2,510	

Although below the average of the former years, 1896 shows an improvement on 1895 except in the trade from other British Colonies.

23. The following table shows a comparison between the values of the import trade in 1895 and 1896 under the four principal

BARBADOS. 1896. classifications of articles imported from the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and foreign countries respectively:—

	United Kingdom.		British Colonies.		Foreign Countries.		Total.	
	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1. Live animals, food, drink,	99,277	94,514	142,640	131,313	295,076	279,569	536,993	505,396
and narcotics. 2. Raw materials	23,331	16,887	22,483	29,021	35,231	54,068	81,045	99,976
3. Manufactured articles:								
(a.) Textile -	122,106	166,545	995	1,204	2,071	2,925	125,172	170,67
(b.) Metal	32,305	35,998	1,301	1,403	4,705	10,778	38,301	48,179
(c.) Other	114,409	151,875	16,138	14,958	43,824	48,424	174,381	215,257
Total	268,820	354,418	18,434	17,565	50,600	62,127	337,845	434,110
4. Coin and bullion-	6	1,830	597	3,746	425	3,829	1,028	9,408
Total imports -	391,434	467,649	184,154	181,645	381,332	399,593	956,920	1,048,88

24. As has already been stated in paragraph 1 (a) of this report 20 per cent. was added in June to the import tariff, which produced 7,470l. additional customs duties.

In April 1895 a change in the tariff secured nearly 9,000l. additional for the year, so that if the business of the two years is to be fairly compared both these additions should properly be eliminated and the comparison made on the basis of the tariff in force immediately before April 1895. This would have given a nett result of import duties in 1895 say 66,000l. against 87,000l. in 1896, or 21,000l. in favour of the latter year.

The new tariff passed in November 1896 came into operation on the 1st of January 1897. Until, as is much to be desired, the tariff can be left alone for some time it will be very difficult to compare the returns from customs duties for one year with another. But in this Colony the administration has at the present time practically only two sources of revenue under its control, viz., import tariff and the excise, to turn to when financial exigencies compel a recourse to additional taxation.

25. The favourable season for the growth of native food products was felt in the decreased imports of foreign food-stuffs with a corresponding increase in articles of clothing, &c., and the better prospects of a good crop of sugar is immediately shown by the increase of manures and fertilisers for its cultivation.

An inspection of the Customs returns shows a material increase in the following articles:—

Carriages and vehicles of pleasure increase in value 3,686l., which marks the first serious invasion of the bicycle. Nearly all

13

of them came from America, the imports from there under this head rising from 1,051l. in 1895 to 3,991l. in 1896.

BARBADOS. 1896.

39

Coal (for steamers principally), 16,168l., against 12,440l. in 1895.

Coffee, 315,570 lbs., against 218,618 lbs. in 1895.

Cotton manufactures, 79,230l., against 52,473l. in 1895.

Fish, dried, &c., 87,656 qtls. (at 18s. per qtl.), against 77,930 qtls. (at 15s. per qtl.) in 1895.

Hats and bonnets, 5,961l., against 3,923l.

Iron and steel, 14,919l., against 10,028l., due principally to the extension of the waterworks.

Leather and its manufactures, 23,944l., against 16,330l. for 1895.

Manures and fertilisers, 90,685l., against 75,833l.; 5,000l. of this difference is found in the increased quantity exported in 1896.

Kerosine oil, 12,247l., against 10,823l.

Woollen manufactures, 44,309l., against 33,322l.

There was a material falling off in the following articles:-

Flour fell from 62,986 brls. (at 18s.) to 56,510 brls. (at 20s.).

Grain fell from 4,059,824 lbs. to 2,690,316 lbs. (at 7s. per 100 lbs.).

Liquors fell from 22,187l., against 20,421l.; 1,000l. of this difference is found in the decreased quantity exported in 1896.

Pork fell from 36,770l. to 26,766l.

Tobacco fell from 8,367l. to 6,892l.

Exports.

26. The total value of the exports in 1896 amounted to 758,228l., of which 577,367l. was the produce of manufactures of the island, and 180,861l. other than that.

Taking the average of the preceding five years' exports:—

1896.			Produce of the Colony.	Other.	Total.
Below the average			£ 136,642	£ 16,274	£ 152,916
Above 1895 -	-	-	182,776	_	170,930
Below 1895 -		-	_	11,846	

BARBADOS. 1896. The following return shows the total export trade for the above period to its various destinations:—

Year.				United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
1891			-	£ 74,605	£ 261,765	£ 477,884	£ 814,255
1892			-	119,168	273,895	553,510	926,573
893	1			141,943	319,689	781,452	1,243,083
894			-	127,444	319,269	537,798	984,512
895	. ,		-	69,760	262,991	254,547	587,298
1896		100	-	38,520	274,813	444,895	758,228

27. Taking the destination of the produce of the island only, which may be confined to sugar, molasses, and rum, for the same period under the above heads we get:—

	Year.		United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total.	
1891				£ 70,285	£ 110,248	£ 440,481	£ 621,014
1892			-	115,635	134,463	501,825	751,923
893		•		127,247	142,475	760,791	1,030,513
894			-	114,311	166,944	490,747	772,002
895				64,794	107,866	221,931	394,591
896				33,521	132,794	411,052	577,367

showing the increasing export trade with foreign countries (America), and the diminishing trade with the United Kingdom.

28. Table showing the Total Trade (Import and Export) with the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and Foreign Countries from 1891 to 1896.

	Year			With t	he United Kin	gdom.	Wit	h British Color	nies.	With Foreign Countries.			
0.4	100			Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	
1891			-	£ 432,637	£ 74,605	£ 507,242	£ 207,186	£ 261,765	£ 468,951	£ 427,795	£ 477,884	£ 905,679	
1892	-		•	469,318	119,168	588,486	195,855	273,895	469,750	416,399	533,510	949,909	
1893			•	391,134	141,943	533,077	184,154	319,689	503,843	381,332	781,452	1,162,784	
1894	-		-	507,534	127,444	634,978	227,514	319,269	546,783	544,286	537,798	1,082,084	
1895		•	-	391,435	69,760	461,195	184,153	262,991	447,144	381,332	254,547	635,879	
896				467,649	38,520	506,169	181,644	274,813	456,457	399,594	444,895	844,489	

Barbados. 896. 29. The export of sugar produced in the island in 1896 was 45,789 tons of muscovado and 3,610 tons of dry, against 34,792 of muscovado and 1,659 of dry in 1895; total 49,399, against 36,451 in 1895.

The estates are gradually regaining the average turn out which had been so greatly reduced by the drought of 1894-95 and the cane disease which accompanied it. The export for 1897 will show a still further satisfactory increase as far as quantity goes; the prices, however, are lower than they were, so that the purchasing value of the exports has not maintained its proper ratio to the increase in quantity.

Of the 45,789 tons of muscovado sugar, 43,857 tons went to the United States, and only 1,101 to the United Kingdom. America took 2,017 of dry sugar and England 1,592 tons. The total value of the sugar crop exported was 436,136l., against 282,092l., in 1885

Molasses.—36,607 puncheons were exported of a value of 122,032l., of this 33,727 puncheons went to British North America and 2,575 puncheons to the United States.

Rum has practically ceased to be an export; only 3,560l. gallons were exported, of which British North America took 2,066; none went to the United Kingdom.

- 30. The inter-Colonial trade showed an increase in the following principal articles exported from here:—Butter, fish (dried), manures, oats, tobacco, and vegetables (raw); and a decrease in beef (salted, &c.), cotton manufactures, flour, liquor, pork, and rice,
- 31. A new item appears in the Export List for 1896, a peculiar product of the island "Manjak" or "Glance Pitch." It is a product of the nature of petroleum in a bituminous form, and when mixed with infusorial earth can be used for fuel. It is found in veins like coal seams. It has very great heating powers when ground into fine dust. Its principal drawback is its extremely low melting point, and scientists are endeavouring to find a substance with which it can be properly combined for purposes of steam fuel. The industry is still in its infancy, and if it succeeds it will be of great value to this island.

One or two shafts have been sunk in various places on the northern end of the island, and a considerable quantity, about 1,250 tons, has been extracted. Some has been used on the railway locomotives more or less successfully, and some has been used by the sugar estates to economise their expenditure on coal. 878 tons were exported in 1896, of which 571 went to the United States and 250 to the United Kingdom; its value is given at 1,756l. or 2l. per ton.

There is the indication of the presence of a large quantity of this material in the island; it remains to be seen whether it can be successfully developed. We have the great advantage of cheap

labour, and of the presence on the same ground of the infusorial earth with which it is mixed to become marketable. There are indications also of oil-bearing rock with a large percentage of petroleum. A syndicate has been formed in America which is preparing to sink wells and exploit the industry.

BARBADOS. 1896.

There is probably some geological connexion between this Manjak and oil-bearing rock and the Pitch Lake in Trinidad.

Shipping.

32. The total number of vessels which entered and cleared was:—

Entered.

Year.		Sailing	Vessels.	Stea	amers.	Total.		
1895 - 1896 -		No. 739 798	Tons. 84,938 89,430	No. 329	Tons. 500,418 542,119	Nc. 1,068 1,152	Tons. 584,356	
Brit	tish.		Fo	reign.		То	-107	

D1.	itisii.	101	eign.		10			
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.			
		SAILING	VESSELS.					
687	57,875	111	31,555	1 798	89,430			
		STE	AMERS.					
333	521,885	21	20,234	354	542,119			

With	Cargoes.		In	Ballast.	Total.			
No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
			SAILIN	IG VESSELS.				
745	79,160	1	53	1 10,270	789	89,430		
			ST	EAMERS.				
339	524,683		15	17,436	354	542,119		

o 97980.

BARBADOS. 1896.

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing	Vessels.	Stea	mers.		Total.		
895 - 896 -	No. 736	Tons. 84,777 89,340	No. 330 355	500	ns. ,418	No. 1,066 1,155	Tons. 585,195	
Bri	itish.	Fo	oreign.			Tota	1.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons		No		Tons.	
		SAILIN	G VESSELS	s.				
689	57,647	1 111	31,69	3	800)	89,340	
		ST	EAMERS.					
333	521,885	22	21,24	2	35	5	543,127	
						Tarring.		
With	Cargoes.	In I	Ballast.			Tota	1.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		No.		Tons.	
		SAILING	3 VESSELS					
678	56,314	122	33,02	6	80	0	89,340	
		ST	EAMERS.					
341	526,788	14	16,33	9	35	5	543,127	

Gaols and Prisoners.

33. The total cost of the prison in 1896 was 4,585l. as against 5,067l. in 1895.

The total number of prisoners was 3,360 as against 4,349 in 1895, and the daily average 344 against 422.

There were 1,631 punishments, against 1,814 in 1895.

Daily percentage of sick 7.4, against 8.4.

Eleven prisoners were released on tickets of leave under the mark system.

The estimated value of labour performed by male labour outside the prison, quarrying stone, building,	£	Barbados. 1896.
&c. was -	463	
Inside—tailoring, shoemaking, blacksmiths, carpenters,	000	
Inside—baking (for prison, lunatic asylum and	226	
lazaretto) was	746	
	120	
Female Labour.		
Beating cocoanut fibre (4,850 lbs.) -	53	
Washing and mending clothing	162	
T-4-1	- 0.50	
Total	1,650	

34. A most satisfactory feature is to be noticed in the greatly reduced number of juveniles in 1896, 29, against 73 in 1895 (26 males and 3 females, against 65 males and 8 females in 1895). This is due, as regards the males, to an alteration of the law substituting corporal punishment sentences in magistrates' courts for imprisonment in the case of summary convictions of boys under 16 for ordinary petty offences. The chaplain of the prison in his report says:—"I am glad to find that, as a rule, juveniles " are no longer being committed to a convict prison, but that a " mode of punishment is resorted to far more judicious and " deterrent than sending, in some instances, mere children to " mix with notorious and hardened criminals."

Boys' Reformatory and Industrial School.

35. The total number of boys was 118; 15 under 12 years, 103 over 12 years.

The total expenditure was 1,760l.

The principal work done at the reformatory is the cultivation of the experimental sugar cane station, where varieties of cane are grown and tested under various kinds of treatment so as to obtain the best and most suitable kinds of canes for the planters who purchase them from the station. 62 acres were cultivated and 176 experimental plots laid down during the year. Too much importance cannot be given to the work done by this institution, under the superintendence of Mr. J. R. Bovell, F.L.S., and by the island professor of chemistry, Mr. J. P. d'Albuquerque, M.A., F.I.C., F.C.S., who, together with Mr. Bovell, analyses and reports on the results of the various experimental plots.

The blot on the present reformatory system here is the absence of a system for obtaining employment for the boys when discharged. The superintendent makes every possible effort to secure employment for them but a proper scheme has yet to be developed to meet the difficulty and disadvantage which at present exists in this direction.

BARBADOS. 1896. There is also a meteorological station at the Reformatory, from which returns are furnished to the Meteorological Society in London and the Hydrographical Office at Washington, U.S.A.

Criminal Statistics.

36. The average number of offences and convictions for the past five years shows:—

	Average.	1896.
Number of offences reported to the police -	11,520	11,561
Number of persons charged before magis-	11,915	11,504
Number of summary convictions	8,906	8,529
Number of convictions in superior courts -	100	99
Total	9,006	8,628

The percentage of persons convicted out of a population of, say, 186,000, gives less than five per cent.

Meteorological Observations.

37. The drought of 1894-95 passed away and rain was sufficiently plentiful throughout the year. The total rainfall was 80.41 in 228 days; the greatest number of wet days in any month was 28 in November, during which 20.41 inches of rain fell, the least was 11 days in February, with a rainfall of 2.37 inches.

Mean barometrical pressure, 29.924 inches.

Mean temperature (maximum 86°:5 minimum 70°.9), 80° Fahr. There were no gales or thunderstorms which did any damage, and no sensible shock of earthquake.

Post and Telegraphic Statistics.

38. The interesting feature under this head is the amount of money orders sent here, principally by those who have gone to other West Indian Islands in search of employment and have been successful and are now in a position to send regular assistance to their families and relatives whom they left in this island.

()f the total amount of orders paid here, 26,000l. (24,438l. in 1895), 21,268l. came from the British West Indies, and a very large proportion of that was in small amounts sent by those who

have emigrated to their relatives at home here.

The total amount of orders drawn in the Colony for transmission abroad was 30,716l. (against 27,972l in 1895—every year shows a marked increase), of which nearly 20,000l. went to the United Kingdom, 5,565l. to the United States, 1,293l. to Canada, and 3,866l. to the British West Indies. The bulk of the amount sent to England, America, and Canada would be in

payment of accounts for articles imported here, while the amount distributed amongst the West Indies was principally assistance sent to those who had left here and were not yet maintaining themselves.

BARBADOS. 1896.

Hospitals and Poor Relief.

39. The total expenditure for the institutions was under 30,000l.

lets-leant that there			1895.	1896.
General Hospital	Sorian I.		£ 7,409	£ 6,119
Lunatic Asylum	151		5,427	4,857
Lazaretto			2,700	2,480
Parochial Almshouses (11 relief), and	poor	16,780	15,784
Total	-		32,316	29,240

Note.—These figures are taken from the Poor Law Inspector's reports; not from the Auditor-General's books, which treat accounts of one year which may be paid in the next as belonging to the year in which they were paid—not to the year in which they were incurred.

The statistical tables give :-

Institution.	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.	Daily Average
General Hospital	3,290	3,077	223	202
Lunatic Asylum -	103	63	39	316
Lazaretto	20		26	109
Parochial Almshouses -	1,627	1,311	385	645
Total -	5,040	4,451	673	1,272

The table showing the total number of cases relieved or treated in the Blue Book Report for 1895 (p. 22) is erroneous; it is not repeated in this report.

The expenditure of the parochial institutions is sub-divided as follows:—

					£
Indoor treatment	-	-		3 Y	6,252
Outdoor relief	-		-	-	2,445
Medical relief	-	-	-	-	4,865
Miscellaneous	-	-	-4		2,222
					15,784

BARBADOS. 1896. 40. The medical report show a decided improvement in the general health of the Island. "There has been a decided immunity "from bowel complaints and typhoid fever as compared with the "previous year" (Dr. J. Hutson, Acting Poor Law Inspector), and he remarks that the healthy period is due to "an improved "sanitary condition of the Island brought about both by means of an improved water supply and also by greater attention to the removal and abatement of nuisances." Dr. Manning says:—
"The ample supply of pure water has had a marvellous effect in stopping our annual outbreak of dysentery and intractable diarrhoea and typhoid."

Dr. Charles Hutson, Poor Law Inspector, mentions that there are still six parishes without dispensaries. He again urges very strongly on the notice of the parochial authorities the desirability and necessity for the isolation of phthisis cases in their institutions.

There was a wide epidemic of measles this year. It appeared soon after the arrival of the King's Regiment from Halifax, N.S. in December 1895. The first case occurred in Bridgetown and spread rapidly through the Island; no parish escaped. Few deaths from it were recorded, but the numbers affected appear to have been large.

General.

41. As was hoped for in the concluding paragraph of my report for 1895, there was a substantial improvement in the year 1896. The island, favoured by seasonable weather, is recovering itself from the calamitous drought of 1894-95. If it were not for the depressing uncertainty of the future and the strain on resources already nearly exhausted by the short crops of the two previous years, owing to the present low market prices of cane sugar and molasses, the prospect would be a cheering one. The crop of 1897 bids fair to be a good one, but what price it will fetch is very uncertain.

The visit of the Royal Commissioners sent out by the Queen in 1897 to inquire into the present condition and prospects of the sugar industry in the whole West Indies, will, it is hoped, be productive of a change for the better, but it would be premature to discuss in any way the direction in which or the means by which this may be effected. It will form no doubt a subject in the report for 1897 by my successor in the office which I have had the honour and pleasure to hold for the past three years of a very interesting, if somewhat critical, stage in the life of this Colony.

G. RUTHVEN LE HUNTE,

Barbados, May 22, 1897.

Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 186.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1895-6.

(For Reports for 1894-5, see No. 152 of this Series)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

December 1896.



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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colo	ny.				Year.
150	Lagos					1894
151	Seychelles		-		-	"
152	Basutoland -		-	-	-	1894-5
153	Fiji	-		• * *	- 1	1894
154	St. Helena -		4.		-	,,
155	Ceylon			-	-	,,
156	Mauritius	-			-	"
157	Labuan		-			,,
158	Gold Coast -	•			-	,,
159	British Guiana -				-	"
160	Sierra Leone -				-) >>
161	Jamaica				-	1894-5
162	British Honduras -	-		100	-	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	-			-	1894–5
164	Newfoundland -		-	-		1894
165	Gambia	•) -	-	/	"
166	Bermuda -	-		-	-	99
167	Leeward Islands -	-	-		-	"
168	British New Guinea	•	1107		-	1894-5
169	Zululand	-	1.	•	-	1895
170	Sierra Leone -	-	•		-	>>
171	Gibraltar	•			-	"
172	Malta	•	-		-	,,
173	Barbados	•	- 1		- (1) -1	"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands					"
175	Falkland Islands -	-			-	, ,,
176	St. Helena -	-	-	-	-	"
177	Bahamas	-	-		-	>>
178	Hong Kong -	-				"
179	Windward Islands -	•	- 4		-	"
180	Labuan	-	-		-	,
181	Trinidad and Tobago	-				,,,
182	Seychelles -	•		-	-	,,,
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues			•		1894 and 1895
184	British Honduras -	•	•		-	1895
185	Lagos	-	•		The state	"

No	Colony		Subject.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Gold Coast Zululand - Sierra Leone Canada - Bahamas Hong Kong Newfoundland		Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany. Emigration. Sisal Industry. Bubonic Plague. Mineral Resources.

No. 186.

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96

BASUTOLAND.

(For Reports for 1894-5, see No. 152.)

LORD ROSMEAD to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Cape Town, September 5, 1896.

Sir, September 5, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your information, a copy of a despatch from the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland enclosing the annual reports on the territory for the

year ended 30th June 1896.

It is satisfactory to record that in spite of the disturbing elements in other parts of South Africa, the Basutos have maintained a thoroughly pacific attitude. The few internal disputes which have occurred during the year have been successfully dealt with by the Acting Resident Commissioner and his officers.

The threatened advent of mineral prospectors has caused some alarm among the natives, but they have doubtless been reassured by the message which you have recently requested to be sent to

the Chiefs.

The liquor traffic carried on by people outside the borders of the territory seems to have given more trouble than usual, but I have no doubt that the officials, both of Basutoland and the Orange Free State, are doing their best to combat it.

The collection by the Chief Lerothodi of so large a sum as 3,184*l*. towards the establishment of an institution for the industrial

training of Basuto boys is satisfactory.

The trade of the country is in a very satisfactory state, as evidenced by the imports and exports and by the Customs Union revenue, which is increasing annually. This revenue, which during the past year amounted to over 11,000*l.*, is, as you are aware, handed over to the Cape Government in aid of its contribution of 18,000*l.* per annum to the general revenue. It is not, however, certain that it will be possible to retain Basutoland in the Customs Union when a new Convention is concluded.

Much damage has been done to the crops by locusts, but it is satisfactory to find that the scourge of rinderpest has been kept

out of Basutoland.

I have, &c.
ROSMEAD,
Governor and High Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96. ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1896.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency a Report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1896, covering reports by the Acting Government Secretary (statistical), Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers.

2. It would be idle to deny that recent political disquietude in South Africa, commencing with the Transvaal disturbances of January last, and culminating in the Matabele outbreak, caused a wave of restlessness in this territory. The native mind is easily moved, and tardily appeared. False rumours regarding the responsibility and defeat of the British Government in the matter of the raid were freely circulated by designing persons, with the object of lowering British prestige. Thousands of labourers returned in a panic from Johannesburg and other parts full of misleading reports that war was imminent between English and Dutch.

The Basuto were incautiously approached by a few mischievous people with a view to shake their allegiance to Government. Reports in newspapers as to their warlike attitude, intentions, and possible confederations put evil and ill-timed ideas into their heads, calculated to give them an exalted idea of their own power

and importance.

While all this was simmering, those who mostly complained of having a menacing tribe on their borders were, in spite of legal prohibition, unconsciously betrayed by reprobates who carried on illicit traffic in arms and ammunition and inflamed passions by

the sale of drink.

Yet, considering the unsettling forces at work, and uneasiness generated in all native tribes when the surrounding atmosphere is disturbed, the Basuto may be given credit for their confidence in the quieting assurances of Government and their steady determination to pursue a pacific course apparently unmoved by foreign complications and alarms. This confidence was severely tested when, upon the Orange Free State arming to assist the Transvaal, rumours rapidly spread that it was intended as a demonstration against Basutoland. A certain section of the tribe were then no doubt urged to assume a watching attitude.

The operations in Matabeleland were regarded rather with interest than sympathy for the rebels, whose brutal murderous acts were universally deplored and condemned by the leading Basuto. The Paramount Chief Lerothodi, though the recipient of innumerable scaring stories, preserved a calm demeanour throughout, declining to get excited or lend himself to other than his responsible advisers. While inheriting the failings common to native humanity he has discharged the duties required of him by Government in a reasonable way, particularly in matters regarding

toreign thefts and complications.

Generous in character, he nevertheless is prone to err by severity of fines in adjudicating upon native cases,

His example in the matter of drink has not been so satisfactory, BASUTOLAND. though a vast improvement on earlier years. One or two lamentable outbursts of intemperance led to a suspension of all public work so far as he was concerned, and consequent confusion. I had then to place reliable men at his village and special patrolling camps along the border. In no case, however, did he

resist the police in the execution of their duty.

3. Notwithstanding the paralysing influences militating during the year against any marked progress, efforts, however spasmodic and hard to illustrate, have not been wanting. We must always be careful not to measure natives by European standards. The Basuto much appreciate the form of constitutional government under which their wishes and grievances are allowed free ventilation, but their race characteristics, together with the impatience of Chiefs of any control likely to impair their traditional powers, are deterrent elements of progress, not absolutely to contend with, but with which to work as far as practicable, in extracting and employing what is worthy. By endeavouring to suppress customs repugnant to civilised thought, developing industrial habits and respect for such laws as are prescribed, upon obedience to which their existence as a nation must always depend, a quiet reclaiming process is at work, entailing the exercise of patience, forbearance, and the conquest in detail of many difficulties known only to those engaged upon The people lack capacity to govern themselves, and though extremely intelligent, are dependent in their childish weakness and art of deception upon firm and generous guidance.

Their greatest enemies are internal convulsions, which are liable to render them conspicuous for turbulence, and, as such, a mark of

reproach in the South African Dominion.

They cannot, however, realise the danger of it, and often, I believe, ascribe to us sinister motives in suppressing disturbance lest perhaps they may be led to forfeit their martial spirit.

Sweeping measures of reform often urged and expected are more likely to offend popular sentiments and convictions than to effect the object immediately desired. Loose philanthropy has

equally little to recommend it.

4. To illustrate the national industry, I may refer to statistics showing that the large number of 28,000 went abroad to labour during the year, in addition to which the output of grain was considerably increased. High wages offered at Johannesburg are no doubt attractive. It has, however, disadvantages. Natives no longer care to seek work in the country or upon border farms at low rates of wages, when they can earn treble at the mines. effect also upon some who accumulate considerable wages is to promote laziness, while, on the other hand, many acquire tastes for civilised clothes and furniture, and spend their money accordingly. This is good for trade.

We have yet to learn how far the contact of this annual stream of labour with the outer world, the free thought engendered, and the contracting of vices so easily learnt at mining centres, are 1895-96.

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96. educating them to think for themselves, and creating a tendency

to shake off the trammels of Chieftainship.

5. I alluded last year to the demand for industrial training of Basuto boys, and my reply to the effect that if the people really cherished the idea they should show some earnest of it by providing the initial means for building and endowment of an institution—a thing well within their power to do. It is gratifying now to report that, from a collection inaugurated by the Paramount Chief Lerothodi, to whom the sole credit is due, responded to as yet only partially by the tribe, the healthy sum of 3,184*l*. has been received and handed to me for deposit in the bank at interest.

Some important Chiefs inimical to Lerothodi, notably Jonathan and Masupha, have not as yet identified themselves with the movement; and others again have probably misappropriated a portion of their collections. Though errors may creep in, as they do amongst all peoples, it is well to encourage in all reasonable ways the principle of self-help. The movement in this case was spontaneous, the object laudable and beneficial as a means of fostering local industry and interest in native undertakings.

6. It is comforting to chronicle but few serious internal disorders during the year. The very grave situation due to intrigues against the paramountcy alluded to in former years has been somewhat relieved, dangerous opposition having eased, though

not entirely subsided.

Lerothodi experiences at times considerable resistance from Jonathan, Molapo, and Masupha who, though desiring to be

paramount in their own districts, deny the rights of others.

In preserving, however, a useful balance of power, these defections serve their purpose. Tribal disputes, though endless, and having a serious side, tend to completely localise tribal attention. They all originate in land questions, which offer a prolific source of contention.

In former days boundaries were made for all principal Chiefs. These boundaries were but roughly indicated, extending only to the terminus of their cultivated areas.

As year by year population and civilised tastes grew, a corresponding demand arose for land to cultivate grain, which is the purchasing power. Thus the communal pasturage became gradually absorbed, each annual process of breaking new land leading to disputes and the necessity for re-delimitation of the hinterland.

Many such disputes have latterly arisen, particularly in that part of the country where the late Ramanella's inheritance is wedged in between Jonathan and Masupha. The two latter formed a rather unnatural alliance (for the history of past feuds makes it practically impossible for them to be real friends), the object being to try and divide Ramanella's country between them The alliance was vigorously opposed by the Paramount Chief and a section of younger Chiefs who viewed with some impatience the prospect of being similarly swallowed up by the elder. On matters reaching an acute stage it became necessary for me to

proceed with the Paramount Chief to the locality and make such BASUTOLAND. boundary adjustments as were necessary to check immediate confusion This was done successfully and attempts made to reconcile other discordant questions between Jonathan and Peete (Ramanella's successor).

But for reasons already given there can be no finality in these boundaries until the last limit of arable land has been reached.

Meanwhile the pasturage is fast disappearing.

Another serious disturbance affecting land arose among the Makoakoa clan of the late Chief Matela, now ruled by his successor Letsika in Leribe district. A fight ensued, five men being killed and several wounded. The case, as well as others of the same nature, but unattended with casualties, was well and judiciously dealt with by Mr. Sloley, who acted as Resident Commissioner during my absence in England. Several persons, including Letsika's son and brother, concerned in the affray were committed to prison, and a fine imposed upon the clan for rioting with violence and disturbing the public peace.

In the same way all Assistant Commissioners have been frequently engaged as intermediaries in the successful treatment of

district quarrels.

7. In suppressing crime and facilitating the ends of justice the

great majority of Chiefs have behaved well.

There are of course at times unruly outbursts on the part of young and irresponsible Chiefs, who attempt to revive shadows of uncontrolled power to which they believe themselves born. These young men require much guiding. One bad case occurred in which a son of Leduma, Chief of the Ba-Pushudi. on being arrested for contravention of Liquor Laws by smuggling brandy, resisted the police, and escaped to the mountains, where he defied capture. He eventually sought refuge at the village of Griffith, a young and restive son of Lerothodi, where temporary harbour was afforded. I directed Lerothodi to apprehend the fugitive, which he did personally, and, upon being handed over, the offender was tried by the District Magistrate and committed to prison.

The Chief Masupha becomes, in his old age, more and more troublesome. He exhibits puerile fancies and is a great drag

upon the wheels of progress.

By his coalition with Jonathan afore-mentioned, he vainly contemplated returning to the original land disposition of 30 years ago, thus abrogating all constituted boundaries since made, recorded, and confirmed.

I much regret that he has just made a deliberate attempt to revive the horrible custom of witchcraft by "eating up" the entire property of a man designedly accused of it. The practice is now moribund and condemned generally by national opinion. The matter is occupying my attention, but I anticipate trouble on account of Masupha's jaundiced obstinacy and of the fact that cattle once seized are hard to recover.

1895-96.

BASUTOLAND. 1895-56. 8. I regret to say that liquor traffic during the past year was probably worse than usual. At times of political disturbance such as South Africa, has passed through, weaker minds are most apt to be captured by demoralising influences. Our police patrolled over 36,000 miles and have done their best towards suppression. But we have to contend with an unprincipled class beyond our borders who are willing to risk the law in a trade admitting of handsome profits.

The Orange Free State Government, to whose officials we are indebted for co-operation, emphatically expresses the desire to suppress canteens in that State, where liquor is sold to natives, and whenever we can produce evidence of such sales to our people the law is put in motion; but as a rule buyers and sellers combine

to defeat conviction.

9. Trade returns show a material increase of imports, exports, and productions. The volume of imports exceeds any other year since Basutoland joined the Customs Union, our share of duties amounting to 11,146l. This sum is taken as a set-off to the Cape contribution of 18,000l., which is further reduced by a

payment of 1,301l. from our working balance.

10. Crops, apparently destroyed in early summer by drought and locust, revived remarkably, and eventually proved to be of fair average. Countless numbers of locusts covered the face of the country, committing great ravages. They were attacked occasionally by the natives, trapped and burnt, and in co-operation with the Cape Government specific efforts were made by the Assistant Commissioner, Quthing, with success, to attack them wholesale along East Griqualand border. Though prolific crops may appear gratifying, it is not so. Experience shows that in such seasons the value of grain is inordinately low, trade is inferior, and abundance of food begets laziness.

11. The threatened spread of rinderpest compelled me reluctantly to forbid the holding of any winter agricultural

shows

It was unfortunate to suffer a break in these enterprising meetings, but we feared assembly of cattle might, if the disease reached our territory, have given rise to a superstition that shows were the cause of it. Upon the epidemic being reported at Harrismith in the Orange Free State immediate action was taken to prohibit all cattle intercourse along our northern border and subsequently, by proclamation, necessary powers were conferred on me to take all precautionary measures for the future.

12. Statistics in crime show a decrease in convictions, but an increase of culpable homicide due to plentifulness of Kaffir corn,

beer, and village brawls.

Considering the small amount of police supervision to which the people, but recently emerged from barbarism, are subjected, the general deference to law is noticeable.

I regret that a deplorable murder occurred amongst the Molopi clan in Leribe, where a man was killed for medicine, at the instigation, probably, of native doctors. Every effort to trace and convict the real culprits failed, in consequence of suppression of BASUTOLAND. evidence, but several persons, including two sons of the Chief, were committed to prison for conspiring to defeat justice.

Molopi himself was deposed from his position as Chief, and a

fine inflicted on the whole clan.

The police are drawn entirely from the country, where intense loyalty exists between Chiefs and people. It is remarkable, as a rule, how well and efficiently they work when their duties and

sympathies come in conflict.

A force of 50 Basuto were enrolled, equipped, and despatched for service in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, under command of Captain Mooney, who has had 12 years' experience in Basutoland. It is hoped that if the men have a fair chance of learning the customs and country, the experiment will be a success.

A further demand for 250 men for service under the Chartered Company as permanent police in Matabeleland was not readily, responded to. I attribute this to a fear that they were required for fighting purposes, and a dread of being tribally involved in the

deadly struggle known to be going on.

13. Hospitals and medical work continue to be usefully maintained. They are now partially self-supporting. No serious epidemics prevailed, with the exception of a mild type of small-pox, now seemingly chronic in all parts where natives congregate in South Africa.

It yields readily to treatment, and is attended with trifling mortality. Extensive vaccination, the superstitious objection to which is now practically overcome, may prove of great public benefit.

From medical reports it appears that syphilitic and kindred diseases are diminishing in severity under persistent treatment.

14. Collection of native hut-tax is now, except in Berea district, reduced to such a system that within two months of calling for it

the bulk is paid.

Masupha is, amongst Chiefs, alone distinguished for apathy in discharging his duties in this respect. The gross tax in the territory annually shows an increase proportionate to growth of population.

15. Education proceeds as well as may reasonably be expected

of a native territory where progress is slow in movement.

The mission societies whose efforts are directed towards it afford readily all facilities for inspection by Government Officers, and appropriate their grants judiciously. The phenomenal success of 20 Basuto lads sent up by the Paris Evangelical Mission for Cape public examinations, of whom 10 passed in honours, and 10 n high classes, is a fact worthy of tribute to their intelligence, as well as to the capacity of the Society.

Their religious work is surrounded by all the difficulties and counteraction inseparable from labour in aboriginal fields. If the fruits are not readily seen, they are felt in various ways. The advantages of labour and industry, a respect for law and order and domestic discipline, are, I believe, prominent features in all

religious teaching.

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96. 16. In closing this report I beg your Excellency will be pleased to represent to Her Majesty's Government the good and faithful services rendered by the officers of this Administration, to whom, as a body, much credit is due for zeal, discretion, and success.

I have, &c.

His Excellency
The High Commissioner,
&c. &c. &c.
South Africa.

G. Y. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

Annual Report of Acting Government Secretary, 1895-1896.

Finance.

The Basutoland revenue for the year ended 30th June 1896 is as follows:—

				£	s.	d.
Colonial contri	bution			18,000	0	0
Hut tax		district.	-	22,966	6	4
Post Office			-	1,210	5	0
Licenses -	D. 110			1,420	5	0
Fines -	- ,	-	-	652	17	0
Ferry tolls	1920		-	295	1	0
Fees -			-	50	1	2
Miscellaneous	-	11.	-	1,059	2	7
		Total		45,653	18	1

The hut tax includes arrears paid, principally by men absent from their homes during last collection, amounting to 1,216*l*., leaving an amount of hut tax paid for the current year of 21,750*l*. 6s. 4d. This exceeds the amount of hut tax of last year by 1,060*l*., a satisfactory increase.

This has admitted of a refund to the Cape Colonial Government of the sum of 1,300*l*. in reduction of the amount contributed towards the expenses of the administration of Basutoland.

Trade.

The dutiable goods imported into Basutoland of which returns are procurable amount, for the 12 months ended 31st March 1896, to a gross value of 104,858l.

The traffic returns rendered show, as the gross weight of imports into Basutoland 2,775 tons, of 2,000 lbs., or about 850

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1895-96.

waggon loads. This represents a considerable increase in imports and a corresponding increase in the amount of customs dues earned and remitted to the Cape Government as a set off against the amount of the Cape contribution towards Basutoland expenses. These customs earnings amounted for the same period to 11,146l. The Customs returns upon which these figures are computed do not include an amount of cash trade with the Basuto, approximately estimated at 30,000l. per annum, done by the numerous and large stores within the Orange Free State upon the Basutoland border. The increase in the amount of imports is due to the high prices which the Basuto have realised for their produce during the past year.

The exports of produce are as follows, the return showing the

figures for the past two calendar years :-

Article	es.		1894.			1895.				
				, £	s.	d.		£	s.	d
Wheat -	-	bags	129,821	44,426	8	0	151,077	74,475	4	0
Mealies -	-	, ,,	68,100	16,265	9	0	82,429	33,857	9	8
Kaffir corn	-	39	6,526	2,528	15	2	3,681	1,675	14	6
Meal -	-	22	921	644	0	0	4,037	4,529	0	0
Mealie meal	-	"	_	-	-		1,361	832	14	0
Wool -	-	lbs.	903,791	12,411	0	3	1,116,999	15,988	0	2
Mohair -	-	,,	68,449	2,151	8	0	83,657	3,499	7	2
Cattle -	-	No.	639	2,072	5	9	427	1,348	5	6
Horses -	-	,,	519	2,157	4	0	409	1,964		6
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	751	0	2	-	1,325	1	5
				83,407	10	4		139,495	15	11

The above exports were thus distributed :--

				£	s.	d.
To Cape Colony -	-		-	56,978		
To Orange Free State	A STATE OF	,	•	82,517	3	11
Total	-		_	139,495	15	11

There is also a considerable amount of produce taken out of Basutoland by natives and hawkers; this is not included in the above returns.

The following licenses were issued:-

To general traders	(shops)	- 11/-01	0.00	-	132
To paid hawkers	-	-	Out the	-	107
To free hawkers	-			-	180
Dam licences	-	• /	-		2

Agricultural and Meteorological.

The officers in charge of districts have reported on the conditions

of agriculture during the past year.

No agricultural shows were held, on account of a report, fortunately since proved to have been unfounded, of the existence of rinderpest within the Orange Free State.

Basutoland. 1895-96. The following are some of the results of observations taken at seven different stations throughout the country:—

Average rainfall, 35.625 inches.

Daily range of temperature, 50° approximately. Maximum registered in Stevenson's screen, 100°. Minimum registered in Stevenson's screen, 17°.

Labour and Passes.

The following is a comparative return of passes issued during the past three years:—

	1893-94.		2. 472	1894-95.			1895–96.	
Labour.	Other Purposes.	Total.	Labour.	Other Purposes.	Total.	Labour.	Other Purposes.	Total.
20,000	32,207	52,207	25,384	37,495	62,879	28,115	41,286	69,401

Police and Crime.

The strength of the Basutoland police is—

European officers - - - - 11

European constables - - - 12

Native officers - - - 4

Native non-commissioned officers - - 22

Native privates - - - 198

who have performed the following patrols:—

		Estimated		Arrests.	
No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Distance travelled.	Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences
751	1,738	Miles. 36,071	57	114	85

The Chiefs and headmen have rendered on almost every occasion willing and efficient help in recovering lost and stolen stock from the Orange Free State and other neighbouring territories with the following results:—

Stock.		Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -		89	18	71	25	64	
Cattle -		163	55	108	68	95	49 recovered in
Sheep and goats		149	25	124	25	124	Cape Colony.

It will thus be seen that all lost stock definitely traced into Basutoland has been recovered.

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96

There has been a decrease in the number of criminal convictions during the year, chiefly in the number of charges under the Pass Law.

The following is a list of convicti	ions:—			
Assault	- 2 - 4	- 1	-	21
Customs Laws (breach of)	-		-	3
Birth (concealment of)	-	-	-	2
Contempt of court -				1
Drunkenness -		-	-	2
Fire arms (breach of law of)) -	-	-	1
Fraud			-	1
Homicide (culpable) -		-	-	13
Liquor laws (breach of)	-	4	-	65
Murder	-		-	1
Pass laws (breach of)	-	-	-	124
Resisting police -	-		-	20
Theft	2		-	54
Trading laws (breach of)	-	-	-	8
Other offences -	3.45		•	40
Total -			-	356

Civil cases adjudicated upon, 16.

Gaols.

The number of prisoners received into gaol was 248 The total number in prison on 30th June was 79.

Postal and Telegraphic.

The work done by these departments is increasing and a corresponding increase of both revenue and expenditure under these heads occurs. There is an increase of 23,000 in the number of letters, &c., posted in Basutoland during the past year, and an increase of 40,000 in the number of letters, &c., received in the country. There are increases also in the number of money orders issued and paid and also in the number of savings bank deposits and withdrawals.

I have the honour to submit the following reports for the past year:—

Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.

Berea.
Maseru.
Mafeteng.
Mohale's Hoek.
Quthing.

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Officer in charge, Qacha's Nek. Principal Medical Officer, Maseru. Medical Officer, Leribe.

> " Mafeteng " Mohale's Hoek.

" Quthing.

H. C. SLOLEY, Acting Government Secretary.

LERIBE.

Annual Report, 1895-96.

Since I assumed office here in June last year there has been

no great change in the political situation.

Letsika Matela, who, as stated by my predecessor in his report for last year, was entrusted with the settlement of matters in Matela's ward and instructed to provide for his younger brothers, failed to do so and in September the Chief Jonathan did it for him. The settlement was not, I think, the best possible, inasmuch as it left several discordant elements in juxtaposition to each other. Two of these, Tlakametsa and Thakabanna, Letsika's eldest son, soon fell out, and in October Thakabanna, no doubt incited thereto by his father, attacked Tlakametsa with guns. Several men were killed, and there was a considerable amount of looting. I happened to be at Butha Buthe at the time and was able to stop the disturbance by despatching Lefi, Jonathan's representative at that end of the district, with some police to the spot. The rioters were tried before the Acting Resident Commissioner and sentences of imprisonment were passed on the more prominent of them, and a heavy fine imposed on Letsika and his people.

Matters are still unsatisfactory at Queneng among Ramanella's sons. Peete has never adjusted matters between his son Mitchel, who was placed last year, and his brother Seshope. Possibly Seshope may be in some degree responsible for this, as his attitude to Peete has not been all that it should be; but there can be no doubt that, if persisted in, this neglect of Peete to fulfil his promise, and also to exercise a restraining influence on his son Mitchel, is very reprehensible and may sooner or later result in disaster. I understand, however, that the Paramount Chief is at present at Peete's and, in conjunction with other Chiefs, is urging

him to settle this matter.

For years past Ramanella's people have been in dispute with Molapo's people about a certain boundary between them at Dipetung. This matter has now been settled by the Resident Commissioner, apparently to the satisfaction of all parties, and a well-defined natural boundary has been proclaimed.

The question of the mountain grazing rights for the Leribe people, alluded to by my predecessor in last year's report, is still unsettled, and Jonathan and his clan are consequently dissatisfied Possibly this may account for a want of co-operation on Jonathan's

part with the Paramount Chief in national matters and a corre-BASUTOLAND. sponding want of support by Lerothodi of Jonathan's authority as Chief of this district.

1895-96.

The relations between Jonathan and Joel are probably not quite

so cordial as they were lately.

Joel has asked that the Chieftainship over Matela's tribe, which in 1890 was taken from him and vested in Jonathan, should be returned to him: and Tlasoa, a younger brother of Jonathan and Joel, who during the gun war deserted Jonathan for Joel, now shows signs of a desire to return to his old allegiance; these, together with other little matters, point to a certain amount of friction existing between the two brothers, but still I think they would be found standing together in any case in which the interests of the Molapo clan were involved.

It is satisfactory to report that notwithstanding the existence of causes of disagreement between Chiefs, and the provocation offered to Jonathan by subordinates, notably in the attack upon Tlakametsa mentioned above, his attitude and that of the principal Chiefs has invariably been one of moderation and self-control.

The revenue for the year under report is as follows, collected

here and at my substation at Butha Buthe:-

					£	s.	d.
Hut tax	-		TO COLUMN	-	5,351	10	0
Licenses	-	-	-	-	385	2	6
Fines	-	-		-	151	4	0
Fees	-	-	• •	-	3	18	6
Miscellan	eous	4.7	4 -46	-	173	10	0
					6,065	5	0

Arrear tax amounted to 305l. 10s.; tax was paid on 10,182

The licenses issued during the year were:—

General traders	-		× -	35
Paid hawkers		- in	M 1 2	46
Free hawkers	-		 40	41

Crops have been poor and prices of grain are high still, though

they have fallen lately.

Vast swarms of locusts (voetgangers) appeared in the autumn and did great damage to the crops, but not sufficient to cause anything approaching to a famine. These locusts were caught by the frost before they were full grown, and it is hoped that they have all succumbed to it without having had time to lay eggs.

The current prices for produce at present are approximately:—

Wheat, 20s. per muid. Mealies, 14s. Kaffir corn, 14s.,, Forage, 2l. per 100 bundles. Cattle, about 4l. each according to size, age, &c. Sheep, 12s. each.

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96. The following is a return of patrols performed:-

No of	No. of	Estimated	Arrests.			
No. of Patrols.	Men engaged.	Distance travelled.	Liquor Laws.	Pass Law.	Other Offences	
210	420	6,841	5	58	9	

I have received willing co-operation from the Free State authorities in all border matters. No doubt a certain quantity of brandy finds its way into the country, but smuggling is not carried on to any very great extent. Prompt action has always been taken by the Landdrost of Ficksburg whenever a supposed case of smuggling has been brought to his notice by me.

The cases adjudicated upon in m	y cou	rts are:—		
Civil cases	-		-	6
Theft	-	-	-	11
Contravention Liquor Law	s -	-	-	9
,, Pass ,,	-		-	62
" Customs "	-	-		3
" Reserve "		-	-	4
" Law relatin	g to fir	earms	_	1
Culpable homicide -	-		-	7
Murder	-	-	-	1
Creating a disturbance	4.		-	6
Resisting police -	-	- /	-	13
Assault	15 - 01		-	6
Maliciously wounding cattle	e -			1

The following is a return showing the results of action taken in the matter of tracing lost stock:—

Descri	Description.		Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	
Horses -		-	15	4	11	4	.11	
Cattl -			23	10	13	10	13	
Sheep -		-	16	16	-	16		

Two head of cattle and one horse reported as not having been recovered last year have since been heard of. The horse has been recovered and returned to its owner; the cattle, which were stolen by the same thief, who is now in gaol, are said to have passed through Basutoland, and re-entered the Free State near Kemi in the Maseru district.

17

Passes have been issued here as follows:-For seeking employment -6,076 For other purposes 15,795 Total 21,871

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96.

Several cases of small-pox have broken out from time to time, but as they were promptly isolated the disease did not spread.

> J. C. MACGREGOR, Assistant Commissioner.

BEREA.

Annual Report, 1896.

During the past year the district has been quiet as far as any actual fighting is concerned.

There are, however, one or two long standing disputes which

have caused a good deal of anxiety.

The most important is that between Peete and Lebese

Masupha as to the ploughing rights of the latter.

In April Mr. Sloley was deputed by the Resident Commissioner to come out to Masalomane, and to again point out the line he had before made, and amplify any obscure points in it. This was done, but Peete still complained that Lebese was encroaching on his rights in various ways.

In June the Resident Commissioner, accompanied by Mr. Sloley, came to Masalomane, the Paramount Chief being present and

Masupha.

The Resident Commissioner viewed the entire line, but declined to entertain the idea of making any alterations in it. Masupha said that he had given orders to Lebese to discontinue the encroachments.

At one time there was great danger of hostilities occurring in connexion with this matter, when, on June 2nd, Mitchell (Peete's son) came from the Leribe district with a body of armed men, presumably to help his father in case Masupha tried to alter the line shown as Lebese's boundary.

Masupha, however, did not then go to Masalomane as he was

expected to do, and Mitchell went home.

The matter of Phatso is of less moment, but it unfortunately

led to the death of a man.

Phatso, the eldest son of Mota, left his father's ward some years ago and took up his residence in the Leribe district. After his father's death he returned and naturally expected to assume his father's rights.

In this he was disappointed, and there was a good deal of

friction in consequence.

The Chief Masupha promised to settle the matter, but so far has failed to do so. At the time of writing, however, it is reported that Masupha is engaged in this matter.

In June a dispute arose as to grazing rights between Mamathe's people and Phatso's, and in a fight which ensued one man of Phatso's was very badly wounded and has since died.

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96. Great trouble was caused by the chief Martinus in November and December last, in the matter of two horses which strayed from the Free State to his village, and which horses he refused to give up when called on to do so. It was only after long delay and on the interference of the Resident Commissioner that the horses were handed over.

Few passes were issued to natives seeking employment at Johannesburg during the months of January and February. Several batches, it was said, were refused permission to cross the Vaal river.

This action no doubt deterred others from going. Confidence was, however, restored and passes were once more freely demanded.

It was reported that some border farmers, to avoid leaving their farms when ordered to proceed to the Vaal river at the time of the inroad of Dr. Jameson into the Transvaal, circulated a rumour that the Basuto were preparing to invade the Free State.

There was no foundation for this rumour, as the natives were in no way disturbed and were carrying on their ordinary

pursuits.

Liquor is, I regret to report, being smuggled into the district, principally by Chiefs, which makes it the harder to catch those concerned.

Of late, information has been obtained as to a man living on a border farm in the Orange Free State, which it is hoped may lead to a stop being put to this traffic to a great extent. This man is said to get his supplies from a bottle store in Lady Brand.

Of serious crime there have been six cases during the year, viz., five of homicide* and one of child murder. Only four serious cases of theft have occurred during the year.

In May a case of small-pox occurred in Peete's ward. The man attacked, and his village, were ordered to be quarantined.

There has again been great delay on the part of Chief Masupha and his sons in co-operating in the collection of hut tax, which came in very slowly. There is, however, an increase of 94l over the amount of last year.

The strength of the police at this station is at present-

Sub-In	nspector			TINE	- 1
Europ	ean constable		- 100	- Wester	- 1
	esergeant	- 1 - 10 00	4 Paris		- 1
,,	cerporal	-	-		- 1
,,,	lance-corporal	-	- 100	11363	- 1
"	privates	-	- 16	-	- 23

The following are the patrols done by this detachment during the year:—

Number	of	patrols	-	-	- 81
"		men		-	- 200
99	,,	miles	-	-	- 3,489

^{*} One by a lunatic.

The arrests made were as under:—

Contravening liquor regulations - 5

pass , - 3

Other offences - - 12

The following is a return of lost and stolen stock reported here —

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96.

St	ock.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re- covered.	Not recovered.	Total reported.	Remarks.
Horses		6	2	6	2	8	
Cattle!		10	1	10	1	11	

The following cases were heard in the Assistant Commissioner's Court during the year:—

Homicide		-	i war	a Paletrie	192	3
Theft	<u> </u>				100	5
Contravenir	ng Liquo	r Laws	-	The same of	mil.	9
99	Pass	,,	- 177		Maria d	5
Other offend	ces	-				10
Civil case		-			-	1
						_
						33

The following is the revenue of the district for the year :-

Unt ton			£ 2,850	s.	d.
Hut tax		-	2,850	10	0
Licenses, 262l. 2s. 6d.		-7	310	17	C
Fines, 48l. 15s		- 6	210	11	0
Fees of court or office	-	-	4	2	6
Miscellaneous					
Miscenaneous			13	12	6
			3,239	2	6
			,=00	4	U

Of the above sum of 2,850l. 10s. for hut tax, the sum of 270l. 10s. was arrears.

During the year the following licenses have beer issued:

General traders - - - 23

Hawkers (paid) - - 32

" (free) - - - 34

The following are the passes issued during the year:

Number of passes for work

other business

, ,, ,, other business - 4,289

Total - 9,004

Grain, though cheaper than it has been of late, is still very dear, viz., mealies, 15s. to 18s.; Kaffir corn the same; oats not to be had.

W. Boxwell,
Acting Assistant Commissioner,
Berea.

20

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96.

MASERU.

Annual Report for Year ended 30th June 1896.

Assistant Commissioner's Office, June 30, 1896.

During the year under report the district has been in a state of

profound peace.

In connexion with the disturbance between the Paramount Chief and Maama reported last year several minor disputes have arisen, but have invariably been brought to the courts and settled

without any trouble.

The Chief's Motseki and Sekhobe being dissatisfied with the treatment they received at the hands of the Paramount Chief removed from the Matsieng Ward and took up their abode with Maama, with whom they had identified themselves in the disturbance referred to above.

During the recent troublous times in the Transvaal some persons, to suit their own purposes, rumoured that the natives were preparing to raid the Orange Free State. It goes without saying

that this was entirely false.

Commercial.

Trade has been exceptionally good this year Good prices have been paid for all produce.

Public Works.

The roads are in good repair throughout the district.

Police.

The	district detachmer	nt consist	s of—			
	Sub-Inspector	-	-	-	-	1
	European constab	les -	-	- 1	-	3
	Native sergeants	-	-		-	1
	" corporals	-			\ -	2
	" privates	-	• 7	-	-	44
		1				

The following is a return of patrols:-

No. of Patrols.	Number of Men engaged.	Approximate Distance travelled.	Arrests.				
		Miles.	Contravening Liquor Laws Contravening Pass Laws Other offences	-	6 3 11		
74	275	4,412	Total -		20		

The liquor traffic, though less than formerly, is by no means suppressed. The police have done good work towards suppression and border officials express a desire to co-operate in putting down border canteens.

The following table shows action taken in the matter of tracing BASUTOLAND. 1895-96.

Description.		No. reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.		
Horses		36	3	33	5	31	2 recovered on Lady Brand Reserve.		
Cattle		39	23	16	36	3	14 traced to Aliwal and restored to owner; 1 sold to a person		
Sheep		10	-	10	1474	10	unknown.		

Serious crime continues to be rare.

The following cases were tried in my court:

Contravenin	g lique	or regul	ations	-	-	6
99		regulat		-		3
,,		rve regu				2
,,	tradi	ng regu	lations		-	2
"	Mast	ters and	Servant	s Act		3
Theft	-it-va	M - 1.5	John St.	35 4 3		13
Assault	- 198	-	-1	5 4 953	-	3
Fraud	-10	37 - 5	A PARTY			1
Breach of pe	eace		- 7	district the		1
Concealment	of bin	th	-	1111-10	5 7 . 11	2
Bestiality	- 1750	112	10 - 1 m	TO-B		1
Resisting po	lice	4			-	2
Gaol breaking	ıg	-	3-1.	6112 50	-	1

There was one civil action.

Revenue.

The revenue for the 12 months is as follows:-

				£	s.	d.
Hut tax -				3,944		0
Licenses -			-	242		0
Fines -	-	Control Laboratory		45	0	0
Ferry tolls		100 mm 191		115	11	3
Fees -	Ji-			16	19	8
Miscellaneous	10-11-	Life Conti	11-11	184	17	10
		Total		4,548	18	9

The hut tax shows an increase of 1881. 10s. on last year's collection. Tax was paid on 7,329 huts. Arrear hut tax amounts to 2801.

Passes.

Passes were issued to 9,160 persons; of these 5,308 were in search of employment.

Licenses.

General traders licenses issued - - 23
Paid hawkers licenses issued - - 12
Free hawkers licenses issued - - 57

Intercourse with the border officials continues to be of a friendly nature.

C. GRIFFITH,

The Resident Commissioner, Basutoland. A.A.C.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report, 1895-1896.

1. The political events which occurred in South Africa made the Basuto suspicious and uneasy, and European agitators having found their way into Basutoland circulated reports calculated to disturb the people and cause them to receive with caution the assurances of Government officers that no change in the present

system of administration was contemplated in Basutoland.

A rumour drifted into the country to the effect that Basutoland was to be thrown open to prospectors and the commandeering and arming of Free State burghers, in connexion with the Transvaal troubles, gave credence to the report and caused the Chiefs to watch with keen interest the progress of political matters in South Africa. It is worthy of note that during this period of uneasiness the Basuto of this district made no demonstration of any kind, but followed their ordinary agricultural and peaceful pursuits, and nothing of an extraordinary nature occurred to disturb the district during the past year.

2. Chief Molomo Solomone Mohale died on 30th January 1896

and he was buried at Thaba Bosin.

3. Although the neighbouring Free State officials do their best to stop the illicit sale of liquor to natives, the canteen trade still goes on along the border and in the town of Wepener; several of the vendors have been heavily fined by the Landdrost of the district, but this does not deter them from a trade that

brings them handsome profits.

Wepener, being situated close to Basutoland, derives considerable commercial support from the Basuto who reside on the western border of this district. The traders in Basutoland keep a similar class of goods and also pay about the same price for produce and stock as the shopkeepers of Wepener, yet thousands of Basuto go there yearly to buy and to sell, and I regret to state that it is brandy that in most cases attracts our natives to the town. Basuto who go from Basutoland to Wepener are not under the usual police supervision after they enter the Free State, as the Pass Law of the Orange Free State has been in abeyance for

some years in order to encourage trade, and thus the Basuto have BASUTOLAND. great opportunities to obtain brandy and also guns and ammunition from illicit sellers. I have, with the consent of Government, stationed a European pass issuer on the Basutoland border near Wepener, and police are also stationed at the border fence gates on the main roads. Patrols constantly pass along the line, but notwithstanding these precautions our native smugglers elude the police and get through the fence at convenient places with their illicit wares. As an instance of the trouble caused by liquor smuggling in this district I would mention that in February last Maphuma, a minor son of Chief Leduma, was arrested by police on a charge of brandy smuggling from Wepener. On leaving the Mafeteng court house in custody he escaped from his escort, sprang on a horse, and galloped out of the village. He reached his home, possessed himself of guns and ammunition and, accompanied by a few lads, eventually sought protection from Griffith Lerothodi, near the Orange River, some 60 miles distant. Several mounted policemen were engaged in following up this youth, and when he was traced to Griffith Lerothodi's, difficulties arose about his arrest, and it became necessary for the Resident Commissioner to direct the Paramount Chief to personally capture Maphuma This was done, and Maphuma and five and those with him. others are now in the Mafeteng gaol undergoing sentences of hard labour for their misdeeds. Griffith Lerothodi was also fined thirty (30) head of cattle for harbouring Maphuma.

4. I attach a return of patrols performed by the Mafeteng

detachment of police during the past 12 months.

N C	No of Mon	Estimated		Arrests.	
No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Distance travelled.	Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences
93	396	Miles. 5,254	34	13	16

The district Chiefs have rendered all necessary assistance in arresting accused persons, tracing lost and stolen stock and generally carrying out Government instructions and regulations. I append a return of lost and stolen stock:

Descript	ion.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Reported.	Remarks.
Horses			5	3*	2	5	*Found by owners in Orange Free
Cattle	-	2	5	2	5	7	State.
Sheep		-	-	-	-	-	

1895-96.

Considering the population of this district, which in 1891 was estimated at 40,000, there was a remarkable absence of serious crime, the following being a return of civil and criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's court.

Civil suits		THE STREET	100	3
	A STATE OF THE STATE OF			0
Culpable homicide -			-	2
Contravening liquor la	aws -		-	34
,, pass lav			-	14
,, trading	laws		-	2
Theft -		-	-	3
Escaping from lawful	custody	-	-	1
Assault		av .	-	11
Infanticide			-	1
Neglect of duty and d	lrunkenness	(police)	-	2

5. The detachment of Basutoland Mounted Police at this station is efficient, well mounted and equipped, and the men are constantly employed on useful and varied duties. The horses are serviceable. The strength of the detachment under my command is:—

Sub-Inspector	-	-		- 1
European constables	-	-	- 70	- 3
Native officer		-	-	- 1
Sergeant -	-	-	-0.	- 1
Corporal -	-	-	-	- 1
Privates -		-	-	- 31

6. There was a prolonged drought during the summer, and swarms of locusts abounded in neighbouring districts and the greatest anxiety was felt for growing crops. Fortunately, however, late rains assisted to mature the crops, and frosts did not come as early as usual, and therefore fair average crops, of cereals were reaped. Locusts did not do much damage to this district.

Many burghers of the Orange Free State applied for and received free licenses to exchange their products for Basutoland grain. These people bring in stock and waggon loads of salt, poles, &c., and barter these goods to the Basuto for grain.

This privilege, which is allowed to burghers of the Orange Free State in connexion with the Customs Union, is very much in favour with them and the natives, though the system is detrimental to traders in the territory who pay licenses.

Owing to a case of supposed rinderpest in Harrismith district, Orange Free State, the usual agricultural show was not held, Government deeming it inadvisable to bring cattle together.

I attach a return of the number of licenses granted at the Assistant Commissioner's office.

General traders (shops)	-	•	-	20
Paid hawkers -	- 1	9 -		10
Free hawkers -	-		-	38

The following is a list of local prices of grain and stock:-

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96.

Wheat, 20s. per 200 lbs.

Mealies, 17s. 6d. per 200 lbs.

Oats, 15s. per 150 lbs.

Barley, 12s. 6d. per 150 lbs.

Kaffir corn, 17s. per 200 lbs.

Oat hay, 20s. per 100 bundles.

Wool, $3\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb.

Mohair, 1s. per lb.

Basuto tobacco, 6d. per lb.

Hides, $3\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb.

Horned cattle (slaughter), 80s. each.

Sheep, 10s. each.

Goats, 6s. each.

Basuto ponies, 61. each.

The rainfall for the 12 months ended 30th June, according to a rain gauge at Mafeteng, was 29.78 inches.

7. The main roads and trade routes were maintained in fair order.

Provision was made for the repair and improvement of Government buildings.

- 8. I inspected, and have furnished a separate report on, 25 Government-aided schools in this district. Religious and educational work is going on under the supervision of the various missionaries, who do much good for the people.
- 9. I attach the Medical Officer's report on the health of the district. Small-pox was rife during the summer months, but strict quarantining of infected areas and vaccination has had the effect of controlling the disease, only a few cases now exist and these are under observation.
- 10. The following is a return of passes issued to natives to proceed beyond the borders of Basutoland:—

Seeking employment	-	 -	6,209
Other purposes -	CONT.	-	9,899
	Cotal	-	16,108

11. I append statistics of revenue, which show an improvement on the amount collected last year, viz.:—

					£	s.	d.
Hut tax	-	7	-	-	3,733	0	0
Licenses	-	-	-	-	210	0	0
Fines	-		-	Trains	105	6	0
Fees of co	ourt a	nd office		-	7	13	6
Miscelland	eous				201	5	3
		Total	Pull		4,257	4	9

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BASUTOLAND. 1895-96. Number of huts on which tax was paid 7,350. Arrear hut tax collected, 1081.

T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

MOHALES HOEK.

Annual Report, 1895-96.

Since my last annual report the district has undergone little or

no change of importance.

The general aspect has been marked by an entire absence of internal dissension and an apparent desire on the part of the people for peace and quiet.

A good deal of anxiety was shown during the early part of the season owing to the continued absence of rain. Crops that were sown and came up, came to a standstill, and for a time great fear

was entertained of a complete failure.

In December the much-needed rain fell and caused the wishedfor change; but this temporary relief was followed by the appearance of immense swarms of locusts, which covered a large portion of the district and threatened total destruction to all standing crops. Fortunately they did not extend over the whole district. In the parts where the locusts were most numerous the crops were practically destroyed, the people being compelled to reap before the grain was matured and ripe and then a large portion fell a prey to the pest, and what was reaped was of inferior quality.

In those parts where the locusts were less numerous, fair crops were reaped, but the damage done was soon apparent when the people commenced selling, a large portion of the grain being light

and of inferior quality.

In July I proceeded to Rouxville with the witnesses in the Lesala gun smuggling case mentioned in my last annual report. The case was heard by Judge (now President) Steyn, and the two prisoners Dan and William Veerster were found guilty and each sentenced to pay a fine of 30l.

In September small-pox again made its appearance. Prompt measures were at once taken to enforce isolation and vaccination. A full report on this subject will be found in the Medical Officer's

report

During the heavy rains in the mountains Malebenye reported the loss of 123 head of cattle and 14 horses, all of which perished in the floods.

In February Maphuma Leduma, who escaped from custody at Mafeteng, fled to Griffith Lerothodi, who persistently sheltered him, when the Paramount Chief, acting upon specific instructions from the Acting Resident Commissioner, personally went and arrested

Maphuma and handed him over as directed to Mr. Lagden, BASUTOLAND. Griffith Lerothodi being severely punished for his disloyal conduct.

1895-96.

In March the Acting Resident Commissioner urged the Chiefs to use their endeavours to destroy the young locusts. attempts were made and a considerable number killed.

In April Letele and Motsuanakaba informed me that owing to the conduct of Griffith Lerothodi in seizing their lands they intended leaving the district and settling in North Basutoland. I called upon Griffith for an explanation, when he totally denied their statement. Since then I have heard nothing further of the matter, and Letele and Motsuanakaba are still living in their respective wards.

In May, a Tembu, who was charged on a warrant with having committed a murder at Ngamakwe, was arrested by my police, and sent back, under the (Criminal) Fugitive Offenders' Act, to

Ngamakwe.

My relations with the Cape Colony and Free State authorities with whom I am officially brought in contact continue to be excellent.

I regret to say that brandy smuggling is still rife, and, owing to the connivance of the Chiefs, it is particularly difficult to effect arrests.

Below will be found a return of patrols performed:—

No. of No. of		Estimated		Arrests.	
Patrols. Men engaged.	Distance travelled.	Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences	
69	105	Miles. 4,770	1	10	10

As will be seen from the following table, a very small amount of lost or stolen stock was reported from neighbouring States, and all that which was traced into Basutoland was recovered:-

Descr	iption.		Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses -			5	3	2	3	2
Cattle -		-	4		4		4

The following is a return of licenses issued at my office:-

General traders		-		- 14
Paid hawkers		- /- !		- 7
Free hawkers	-	T- 1	- 0	- 10
Dam licenses :			-	- 2

The number of criminal cases tried in my court during the year was as follows:—

Theft - - - 5
Contravening Liquor Laws - - 1
, Pass , - - 10
Assaulting and resisting police - 1

There were no civil cases tried.

The following return of passes issued during the year shows an increase of 578 over the previous year:—

Seeking employment - - 3,431
Other purposes - - - 2,027

Total - - 5,458

All schools in the district have been inspected and the pupils showed a fair amount of improvement.

The following is a return of revenue collected during the

year:-

					£	S.	d.
Hut tax			-		3,575	10	0
Licenses	-		-	-	150	0	0
Fines	1			-	69	4	0
Ferry tolls	_			-	4	17	3
Fees of cou	rt or	office			4	12	6
Miscellaneo		-	-		148	15	4
		Total			3,952	19	1
					-	or and the same	-

It will be seen from the above table that there was an increase of 3331. of hut tax collected over the previous year.

The number of huts on which tax was paid was 7,121.

Amount of arrear tax collected was 136l. 10s.

The following are the present ruling prices for produce and stock:—

Wheat, 25s. per bag of 200 lbs.
Mealies, 18s. per bag of 200 lbs.
Kaffir corn, 18s. per bag of 200 lbs.
Oxen, 90s. each.
Other cattle, 60s. each.
Basuto ponies, from 100s. each.
Sheep, from 7s. each.
Goats, 6s. each.
Fowls, 1s. each.

Oats and barley are unobtainable in the district.

J. W. BOWKER, Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND.

QUTHING.

1895-96.

29

Annual Report, 1895-6.

General.

The peace of the district has continued undisturbed during the

past year.

The efforts of the authorities to deal with the complaints brought against the Chief Nkwebe Letsie by the Chiefs and headmen located by the Cape Government in Quthing during the years 1882-3, appear to have been attended with beneficial results, and the last few months have shown a marked diminution

in the friction referred to in former reports.

2. The bad feeling previously reported between the sons of the Tembu Chief Tyali unfortunately still continues unabated. This is due in a large measure to the neglect of the Chief Nkwebe Letsie to deal with, and settle, complaints taken into his courts by the disputants, and should the non-settlement of these matters lead to any serious breach of the peace he will be principally responsible.

3. Several further instances have come to light during the year of Chiefs appropriating stray stock and converting it to their own use instead of sending it to the pound to be advertised. practice appears to be common, and, as previously pointed out, it is liable to abuse. Moreover, there is no guarantee that such proceedings may not extend to stock from the adjoining territories.

4. The illicit liquor traffic appears to be on the increase in South Basutoland. This may be attributed in part to the bad example set by minor sons of Letsie and other Chiefs, who have been located near the Orange River during the last few years, and partly to the increased facilities given by the granting of canteen licenses in various small townships near the border in the Cape Colony.

Relations with Bordering States.

Amicable intercourse with the neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony and East Griqualand continues as formerly, and several escaped criminals have been given up to justice from both sides of the border line.

Public Works.

Arrangements have been made for supplying the camp with water from a permanent spring on the reserve, and the laying of the pipes for this purpose is nearly completed.

The district roads are in a passable condition, with the exception of the branch road to Ongeluk's Nek, which is in certain parts in

a ruinous state.

Burrweed still exists in some places in large quantities, but the efforts made in other parts for its extirpation have been attended with good results. It is noticeable that Chiefs' villages are apt to be strongholds of this weed all through the territory.

Agriculture.

The year has been a trying one for agriculturists, the prolonged drought of the early spring having been followed in January last by extraordinary swarms of locusts, which came in from the West, and destroyed the young crops. They deposited their eggs in this country, and within two months these hatched out and the young broods did great damage in various parts of the district. Efforts were made during April and May to cope with the pest and large numbers of locusts in the hopping stage were destroyed by the natives under Government direction.

The effect of this visitation, apart from the destruction of the crops, has been seriously to affect the condition of live stock in the country, the locusts having eaten out the more nutritious kinds of grass in the pasturage. It is to be feared that numbers of stock will perish from poverty during the winter from this cause.

An agricultural show was held at Moveni in the month of February, which, as regards the quality of many of the exhibits, was only a partial success. Neither cattle nor horses appear to be so good here as those found in other parts of Basutoland. The sheep and goats shown were of relatively better class. Very little grain of any kind was shown, owing to general scarcity.

The frosts fortunately came late this season and a quantity of Kaffir corn had time to ripen, which early frosts would have destroyed. There is, notwithstanding, a prospect of scarcity of food among the people.

The following schedules show-

1. Revenue collected under various heads.

- 2. Number of huts on which tax was paid and arrear tax collected.
- 3. Number of licenses issued.
- 4. Return of lost stock.
- 5. Civil and criminal cases tried.
- 6. Current prices of produce and stock.

7. Return of passes issued.

8. Return of patrols by police.

S. BARRETT, Assistant Commissioner.

Schedules.

1. The following is a return of revenue collected :-

				£	s.	d.
Hut tax -	-		-	2,295	10	0
Licenses -				433	6	6
Fees of cour	rt or office	-		2	13	6
Miscellaneou	ıs -	15.	Lagist.	74	3	6
	Total	nli ker		2,805	13	6

2. The total number of huts on which tax was paid this year BASUTOLAND. is 4,549, and arrear tax amounting to 61l. 10s. was collected. 1895-96.

3. Number of licenses issued :-General traders 15 Paid hawkers 2 Free hawkers 5

4. Return of lost stock :-

Descr	iption.		Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.	
Horses			2	1	1	1	1		
Cattle		•	75	9	66	9	66	9 recovered	in
Sheep		4	15	9	6	9	6	Cape Colony.	7

5. The civil and criminal cases tried during the year are as follows :-

Civil cases ·	-	50	- 4
Assault (common) -	-	-	- 1
Assault (with intent, &c.)			- 5
Contempt of court -	-		- 1
Theft	-	-	- 12
Contravening Trading Laws	-	-	- 4
" Liquor Laws	-	-	- 6
,, Pass Laws	-	-	- 21
Resisting police -		-	- 3
Malicious injury to property	-	•	- 1
Destroying public works			- 1
Trespass		- 1	- 2
Culpable homicide -	-	-	- 1

6. Current prices of produce and stock:

Mealies, 20s. per bag Wheat, 25s. per bag. Kaffir corn, 20s. per bag. Horses, 4l. to 6l. each. Cattle, 3l. to 5l. each. Sheep, 12s. to 15s. each. Goats, 5s. to 10s. each. Wool, 3½d. per lb. Mohair, 9d. per lb. Forage, 25s. to 40s. per 100 bundles.

7. The following is a return of passes issued during the year :-

> Seeking employment 2,190 Other purposes 2,984 Total 5,174

8. The following is a return of patrols:—

	No. of	Estimated		Arrests.	
No. of Patrols.	Men engaged.	Distance travelled.	Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences
154	244	Miles. 4,849	6	24	23

QACHA'S NEK.

Annual Report, 1895-96.

General.

I am pleased to report that no political difficulties have arisen to disturb the tranquillity of the district during the past year, and a more peaceful state of things could hardly have been desired.

I continue to receive ready assistance from Chiefs and headmen in tracing lost or stolen stock and in the recovering of criminals.

The population of the district is very much on the increase, due principally to immigration. Though no foreign natives are now allowed to settle in the district without first obtaining the permission of Government, there are very few instances where permission has not been granted, and the mountain area is being rapidly filled up by immigrants from Natal and the Cape Colony, who naturally occupy the most suitable ground for cultivation, &c. This, I think, is a pity, as the mountain area would present a fair field for the disposal of the surplus population of the surrounding districts of Basutoland.

Nearly all the thieving which takes place in the district is done by the foreign natives, who act in concert with their friends residing in the neighbouring territories, certain parts of which are

veritable dens of thieves.

My relations with the officials of the bordering districts of the Cape Colony and Natal continue to be friendly, and we render one another every assistance in endeavouring to suppress stock thieving, though the want of a strong police force in East Griqualand is much felt, as, when thieves have been once able to cross over the mountains from Basutoland, they can, by employing careful tactics, travel long distances without being observed.

Swarms of flying locusts visited the district during the month of January last, and did considerable damage to the crops. The mealie and Kaffir corn crops, however, recovered, as they were not very far advanced. These locusts before departing laid their eggs,

and locusts in the hopping stage made their appearance in March BASUTOLAND. last. Efforts were made for their destruction with fair success. The survivors have lately attained the flying stage, but I am pleased to report they are dying off, being unable to withstand the cold weather.

1895-96.

Commercial.

No additions have been made to the trading community existing trading stations appear to continue to do a good trade. Some of the trading stations in Matatiele district draw a great part of their trade from people living in the district.

The following is a list of average prices paid by traders for

produce and live stock during the past year: -

Wheat, 15s. per bag. Mealies, 10s. per bag. Kaffir corn, 15s. per bag. Wool, $3\frac{1}{2}d$. per lb. Mohair, 6d. per lb. Hides, 2d. per lb. Horses, 31. each. Cattle, 31. each. Sheep, 8s. each. Goats, 5s. each.

Public Works.

The road from this station to Mr. James Cole's shop at Mpitis, mentioned in my last annual report, has been completed by the owner of the above shop at his own cost. The road from here to Matatiele will again soon require attention.

Police.

The police force still continues to do its work satisfactorily, and the health of the men has been very good.

The following is a return of patrols done during the past year:-

N. C	No. of	Estimated		Arrests.	
No. of Patrols.	Men engaged.	Distance travelled.	Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences
70	98	Miles. 6,456		3	4

^{0 94040.}

The following is a list of civil and criminal cases tried in my court during the past year:—

Person Person	1					-
Civil cases	-	al Caline	1. 1- 13	The Towns	Kut i	1
Witchcraft		5 Tr - 011	4 -1 47		-	1
Theft	-	-			-	5
Contravening	g Pas	s Laws			-	9
Resisting po		10-10-10	-	-	-	1

RETURN of LOST and STOLEN STOCK.

Description.	Reported	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	- 18	1	17	3	15	8 reported recovered in Mata-
Cattle -	- 4	1.	3	1	3	tiele.
Sheep and goats	- 108	-	108	-1	108	4 recovered in Matatiele.

Revenue.

The increase of the population before mentioned is naturally followed by an increase of Revenue collected particularly under the heading of Hut Tax.

The following is a return of revenue collected during the past

ear:—									
						£	s.	d.	
]	Hut tax	-	-		-	1,215	16	4	
	Licenses	-	-	-	-	20	0	0	
]	Fines	-	-		-	16	17	6	
I	Miscellane	eous	-	-	-	24	7	0	
	Total	· here	-		-	1,277	0	10	
Arrea	r hut tax	colle	cted			-		-	541.
Numb	per of hut	s on v	which t	ax was	paid	-		-	2,333
Numl	ber of lice	enses i	issued-	_					
	General t			-		-		-	2

Agriculture.

Hawkers

Nil

On account of drought in the spring and ravages of locusts the yield of crops is considerably below the average.

Passes.

The following is a return of passes issued during the past year:—

Seeking employment	-	-	726
Other purposes -	-	-	2,422
Т	otal		3,148

Medical.

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96.

The general state of health of the people of the district has been good.

Small-pox broke out in the village of Maphassa attacking 22 persons, who all recovered except four. By promptly quarantining this village and a few of the surrounding ones, the disease was stamped out and has made no headway; 930 persons have been vaccinated and provided with certificates during the past year.

Education.

There are two Government-aided schools in the district, inspection reports upon which have been sent in.

JNO. T. GRIFFITH, Sub. Insp., B.M.P., Officer in Charge.

PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER.

Annual Report, 1895-1896.

Public Health.

In this section of my report, before reviewing the epidemics which have occurred in Basutoland during the past year, I would call attention to the proclamation of his Excellency the High Commissioner (132/1896) declaring the disease therein denominated "Amaas" to be an infectious disease within the meaning of the Public Health Act of 1883, and take this opportunity of pointing out that during the last two years the medical staff in Basutoland, while recognising the prevalence of a disease resembling, yet quite distinct from, small-pox, have, during this period, in their official reports dealing with outbreaks of small-pox, made no distinction between the two diseases.

It will therefore be understood that in this and other reports already before the Government the term small-pox includes a very large per-centage of cases of the so-called disease "amaas." The mild nature of, and the extremely low mortality which characterises, "amaas" have made the quarantining of such cases an extremely difficult task, the patients and their friends naturally objecting to the inconvenience of quarantine as applied to a disease which, per se, appeared to them a trifling ailment not calling for any efforts for prevention.

For your information I append a short comparison of the salient features of "small-pox" and "amaas," from which it will be noted that while possessing many features in common there are sufficient grounds for considering them as really distinct pathological conditions. At the same time the highly infectious and contagious nature of "amaas" renders it very desirable that the same preventive measures should be observed in dealing

with either disease. The more so, since, owing to the similarity in the appearance of the eruption in both and their occasional co-existence, the former might inadvertently be allowed to spread if quarantine were not enforced for both diseases. The failure to appreciate this led to a severe epidemic in a part of the Orange Free State bordering on Basutoland, to which source several recent outbreaks in the Maseru and Teyateyaneng districts were trace i.

Comparison between the Prominent Symptoms of "Smallpox" and "Amaas."

	Small-pox.	Amaas.		
Eruption	Three well-marked stages recognised, characterised by the development of papules, vesicles, and pustules. The various stages are reached almost simultaneously by the entire eruption.	Vesicular from the beginning. The contents of the vesicles become semi-purulent about the third day. The eruption appears in successive crops so that fresh vesicles are often seen side by side with old scabs.		
Scarring	More or less deep circular pits; great disfigurement in severe cases.	Scarring rare or at mos small linear depressions.		
Febrile symptoms -	Initial fever high, and often accompanied by vomiting and severe pain in the back.	General malaise with slight fever; neither vomiting or backache.		
Secondary fever -	Generally severe about 10th day.	Convalescence generally esta- blished about this period.		
Mortality in the un- vaccinated.	Invariably high and inversely proportionate to age.	Almost nil and directly proportionate to age, about one per 1,000 in elderly people. Death occurring in young children unknown.		
Preventive value of vaccination.	High	Doubtful.		

Epidemics.

"Small-pox" was very prevalent in the southern part of Basutoland during the first half of the year, but, with the exception of minor outbreaks in the Quthing district in May, this part of the country has since been practically free of the disease. A few sporadic cases have appeared in the Maseru, Berea, and Leribe districts during the last six months, and in most cases the source of infection was traced to the Orange Free State.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that, owing to the various preventive measures enforced, the territory is now practically free of the disease.

Although, as stated above, vaccination does not appear to afford protection in all cases, and on that account is obnoxious to certain

sections of the people, this measure has been vigorously enforced BASUTOLAND. whenever possible. In addition to those who were provided with certificates to enable them to leave the territory a large number of free vaccinations have been performed, notably in Maama's Ward, where, owing to the encouragement given by the Chief Maama, nearly every inhabitant has been vaccinated.

1895-96.

Syphilis.

This disease still figures largely in the annual returns. Bearing in mind, however, that the native mind fails to realise until too late the contagious nature and serious effects of syphilis any further marked diminution in the number of cases which come for treatment cannot at present be looked for. My own experience extending now over a considerable period, is to the effect that, owing to the aid so readily sought and obtained against the ravages of this disease, it has no longer the serious import such as obtained some six years ago. As I remarked in my last report. the severe tertiary manifestations are now rarely met with, and I have lately observed a marked diminution in the number of young children suffering from hereditary syphilis, a fact which speaks for itself.

Leprosy.

It is extremely satisfactory to note that leprosy appears at least to be stationary. No new cases have been brought under the notice of any of the medical officers during the past year, so that there is good ground for assuming that the fears entertained two years ago concerning the spread of leprosy have now no foundation in fact.

Whooping Cough.

The whole country suffered severely from this disease during the summer months, and the mortality among young children was high. Apart from the severity of the disease itself, the little care usually bestowed on children, and the total ignorance of hygiene which prevails, are partly accountable for the high death rate.

No other epidemic calls for comment, and to the improved water supply and sanitation at the different camps may be attributed the entire absence during the past year of such diseases as typhoid fever and diphtheria.

Police.

The health of the police during the past year has been uniformly good.

Hospital and Dispensary Work.

The upward tendency in the number of attendances noticed in my last year's report has been maintained, and it will be seen from the following tables that there has been a marked increase at most stations.

In speaking of the hospital work, I would take this opportunity of calling your attention to the fact that, while being the most

satisfactory and certainly not the least important part of the Medical Officer's duties, it is considerably handicapped by the insufficient accommodation and entire lack of any nursing staff. While recognising the efforts of the Government to provide for the hospitals, so far as in their power lies, I would wish to place on record the fact that "as hospitals" the present establishments are far from being "efficient," nor is it possible with the present means at the disposal of the medical staff to make them such.

In spite of these difficulties 218 in-patients were received and treated, and a large number of surgical operations were performed. There has been an entire absence of cases of surgical fever, which is a matter for congratulation, bearing in mind the adverse conditions under which the many severe surgical operations are performed.

The following tables give the number of attendances, &c., with a comparison with last year's returns, together with a return of

the number of people vaccinated:

TABLE showing NUMBER of PATIENTS treated at the various Hospitals and Dispensaries.

District.		New Cases.		Subsequent Attendances.		In-Patients.		Total.	
		1894-5.	1895-6.	1894-5.	1895-6.	1894-5.	1895-6.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Quthing		50	820	10	354	•	7.100	60	1,174
Mohale's Hoek -		1,584	1,576	189	346	44	34	1,817	1,958
Mafeteng	1.	1,549	1,842	598	630	29	35	2,176	2,507
Maseru		2,154	2,642	499	1,175	78	86	2,731	3,903
Leribe		1,578	2,710	496	356	34	63	2,108	3,129
Grand totals		6,915	9,590	1,792	2,861	185	218	8,892	12,669

^{*} No hospital at this station.

TABLE showing the Number of People Vaccinated during the Year ending 30th June 1896.

UIIC 1	car on	dillig oour	0 0.220		
Qacha's Nek			T. WA	100	930
Moyeni	10.10		4	-	3,364
Mohale's Hoek		-	- 7	-	3,955
Mafeteng		•	Y.		5,586
Maseru					3,079
Berea -					3,057
Leribe			-	-	6,272
Butha Buthe				-	1,522
Elsewhere, by	nolica	and other	e (estir	nated)	8,000
Elsewhere, by	Porice	and other	o (Cour	ilwica)	
		То	to -		35 765
		То	ta -		35,765

Tota - 35,765

EDW. C. LONG, Principal Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER, LERIBE, 1895-1896.

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96.

The figures given below show the number of attendances at the hospital and dispensary, and the vaccinations performed, during the year ending 30th June 1896:—

New cases -	-	•	-	2,710
Subsequent attendances	-		-	356
Hospital in-patients	-	-		63
Vaccinations -			-	6,272

The work done at the dispensary and hospital shows a considerable increase over that of the previous year. The number of patients attending for the first time almost doubles that of the previous months.

Syphilis is still very prevalent in the district, and is the disease affecting a large number of those attending at the dispensary.

Almost 25 per cent. of the new cases were syshilitic. This is not to be taken as showing that the disease is on the increase, for I believe it is being slowly stamped out. The disease is not so virulent as in some parts, and yields readily to suitable treatment. The natives have found this out and attend the dispensary in increasing numbers. Gastric and pulmonary complaints form a large proportion of the cases.

There is an increasing tendency to gout amongst the better-todo class of natives. Chiefs and headmen are especially liable to this disease, caused, no doubt, by free living and little exercise.

Severe cases are received into hospital, and as the rooms are small only four can conveniently be accommodated at one time. In the course of the year the place has been several times over-crowded. The in-patients numbered 63.

A kitchen store-room has been added to the hospital buildings and has supplied a long-felt want. Prospective improvements to the two hospital rooms will materially increase the utility of the establishment.

The general health of the district has been fair during the year; a number of epidemics, of which one is still in progress,

passed over this part of the country.

In June, July, and August mumps were prevalent in the camp and district. The disease was first noticed amongst the prisoners, from whom it spread to the police, and subsequently over the district.

On August 17, small-pox at Mpherane village; a police guard was placed over the village and strict quarantine enforced. The disease was confined to the inhabitants of two huts, and only eight persons caught the disease.

An epidemic of whooping-cough broke out at the beginning of the year and passed up the district and is still prevalent in some

parts at the present time

Several sporadic cases of chicken-pox were reported from time to time.

Diarrhœa was very prevalent at Butha Buthe during the summer and autumn. The water supply was examined and found uncontaminated.

The western portion of this camp is badly supplied with water, and dysentery broke out several times, especially after rains. A polluted well is no doubt the cause. The evil has been remedied by the drying of the well.

The health of the police has been good during the year; 10 men

suffered from mumps during the epidemic.

The sanitary condition of the camp has improved. The pan and dry earth system has been partially introduced, and it is

hoped that ere long the system will be generally adopted.

An efficient water supply is much wanted. At present there is only one spring supplying the large population in this place, and as it is far away many of the natives use water from more convenient but inferior and polluted sources.

Of the vaccinations 2,643 were done at the dispensary, 1,467 at Peka, 1,522 at Butha Buthe, and 640 by private persons in several

parts of the district.

N. M. MACFARLANE, Medical Officer.

SIR, Mafeteng, June 30, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to report that I commenced my duties

as Medical Officer at this station on April 1st of this year.

The dispensary and hospital have been opened almost daily for attendance and reception of patients with exception of period from November 12th, 1895, to January 10th, 1896, when the late Medical Officer was absent on leave. During this period the dispensary was attended for a few days at intervals by the Principal Medical Officer and the Medical Officer of Mohale's Hoek.

The number of patients shows a marked increase over that of the preceding 12 months, especially so when it is remembered that they had little opportunity of attending for about six weeks out of the year.

The following table shows the attendances compared with that

of the previous year :-

Class.	1894–95.	1895–96.	Increase.
New cases	1,529	1,842	313
Subsequent attendances	598	630	32
Hospital	29	35	6
Total	2,156	2,507	351

The next table gives the attendance of the sexes according to the division of ages most easily distinguished in a rough way. It will be seen that the female members of the community show the largest attendance on the total number of attendances; the males, however, show a larger number under class of children of 12 years and under, as compared with the opposite sex:—

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96.

Sex	Κ.		Adults.	12 Years and under.	Infants.	Total.
Female		-	643	218	93	954
Male -		-	558	247	88	888
Total	-		1,196	465	181	1,842

Syphilis (as shown in Table I. annexed) is still the disease which shows largest number of attendants, the total for the year being 340, or more than 100 over the next commonest disease, viz.,

dyspepsia, which shows a total of 227.

Compared with last year the attendance for this disease has increased by nearly a hundred, the figures for preceding 12 months being 249; but although there has been this large increase in numbers of syphilitic attendances, it does not prove a material increase of the disease, as the per-centage attendance for the two years is almost identical, viz., 17.8 per cent, for year ending June

1895 and 17.97 for the present year,

The disease causes more extensive lesions than in Europeans of the lower class, and this is certainly due to want of treatment in the early stages, as when they do come under treatment they respond readily, as a rule, with the result that very extensive indurations and ulcerations rapidly clear and heal. During the time which I have been at this station I have only seen one case of primary and one, or at most, two cases of the secondary form of the disease, all the others being well-marked tertiary or congenital cases. It will be seen from Table II. that the number of syphilitic subsequent attendances is double that of any other class of case, and the per-centage attendance works out as high as 32.05 per cent. or nearly double that for primary attendance; this in itself is very gratifying, but at the same time, if they could be impressed with the necessity of early attendance, I am sure it would save them a great deal of expense and time, and, what is more to their advantage, make them a healthier, stronger, and happier race.

Dyspepsia is the next commonest disease, and appears to be more prevalent when food is plentiful and harvest is being reaped. It will be seen that the per-centage of dyspeptic repeats falls below

that for primary attendance.

Of the 52 cases classed under the heading Pulmonary, the majority are of a trivial nature and chiefly seek relief for slight catarrh of the larger bronchi; there have, however, been one or

1895-96.

BASUTOLAND. two cases of broncho-pneumonia in young children and some cases of chronic bronchitis in elderly people; about six cases of phthisis have come under my notice, four of which were of a more or less chronic nature, and might be classed as fibroid. One case, which was that of a girl of 14, living in the camp, developed an acute pneumonic phthisis of one lung and died in about three months, and before death the apex of the other was affected; the other case, which is still under notice, is of a more sub-acute nature.

Diseases of the skin are mostly scabies, eczema, impetigo contagiosa, and tinea versicolor. (Syphilitic skin lesions are classed with syphilis.) Diseases of the nervous system, rheumatism, gonorrhœa, ears, tænia, cardiac, urinary, and female generative organs require no special attention, their prevalence being fairly uniform throughout the year and nothing of interest has attended

any of the cases, as far as I am aware.

Epidemics

On examining Table I. it will be seen that there was a large increase of the number of patients attending for diseases of the eyes during months of February, March, and April. This was due to an outbreak of conjunctivitis, mostly of a catarrhal nature, and which responded fairly rapidly to treatment. Some cases, however, took on a follicular, and in one or two instances a granular, nature and caused some little trouble, but with the exception of one or two cases of the latter variety all have, as far as I know, recovered without any serious defect of vision or other injury to the organ affected.

During summer months diarrhea became rather frequent, but was chiefly of a lienteric nature, although there were a few cases

classed as dysenteric.

Whooping-cough made its appearance in October and still continues, although I think it is lessening in intensity, and as regards numbers attacked it appeared to run hand in hand with ophthalmia as regards the months in which most children were attacked, and some suffered from both diseases at same time.

A few cases of death in weakly children have been brought to my notice as the result of broncho-pneumonia following on or attacking during an attack of whooping-cough, but most of the

cases have recovered.

Influenza was present during the spring and early summer, even up to Christmas, since which no cases are recorded in the books.

Hospital.

The hospital attendance numbered 35, or an increase of six over the number of the previous year; of these cases 8 were medical and 27 surgical, and the average number of days in hospital 221.

The following table gives the sex and ages of the patients BASUTOLAND admitted into hospital:—

BASUTOLAND 1895-96.

	Sex.		Adults.	12 and under.	Totals.
Females		-	10	2	12
Males -			20	3	23
Tota	1 -	-	30	5	35

Analysis of Medical Cases, with Result of Treatment shown.

Diseas	е.	8	Females.	Males.	Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	Died.	Still in.
Hepatic tumour			tin A	2	4 4		2	24	
Enterica -	4.0		1	1	1	_		1	_
Hemiplegia -			_	1	1	P-6-187			H-QT-96
Progressive atrophy.	musc	ular	-	1	-	A Sicoli	_		_
Chorea -			1	_	1		_	_	3-21
Phthisis -			-	1			Charles In	100	1

ANALYSIS of SURGICAL CASES treated, with RESULTS.

Disease.		Females.	Males.	Cured.	Relieved.	No Relief.	Died.	Still in
Abscess		1	4	2	1		1	1
Accidents		-	2	2	-		-	/_
Syphilis		2	1	1	2	_	-	
Cysts		4	-	4	-		-	
Eyes		-	2	2	7-1-	T-	_	_
Ruptured perinæum		1	-	-	-	11-76	-	
Stricture	Store.	-	3	3	-	1-200	TONE !	
Otitis media	24.	-	1	1		<u> </u>	9-1	WE LINE
Fibromata	-	2 - in	1	1	-			_
Ranula	1	1	_	1		-		
Parotid tumour -	1000		1	1.	-1	_	_	
Vesicular dermatitis		-	1	1	Carried Barrier	100	-10	
Rheumatoid arthritis	3 -	1						

In the two previous tables 34 cases are accounted for; the 35th case, which is not tabulated, is one which it appears was admitted to hospital and refused treatment; the disease is not detailed.

The following table will show at a glance the exact result of treatment of cases taken en bloc:—

Cured		-	-	21, or	59.8	per cent
Improved	1 -	-	-	4, ,,	11.4	,,
No relief		-	-	4, ,,	11.4	"
Died	-1	-	-	2, ,,	5.7	,,
Still in	-	-	-	3, "	8.5))
Refused	treatment	-	-	,,	2.8	"

99.6

Taking into consideration the great difficulties under which treatment is carried out with the class of patients under notice, and the hospital and appliances at one's disposal, I think that this result throws great credit on the late Medical Officer, under whose care the majority of the cases were.

The hospital is certainly appreciated by the natives, especially as a house of refuge for minor ailments; in fact, one could have it full of such cases, but they are certainly a bit chary of entering

where any serious surgical operation is required.

Sanitary affairs since my arrival here need no comment, there having been no outbreak of disease traceable to an unsanitary condition of the premises of the European population.

Epidemics.

Before my arrival here I believe there was a good deal of small-pox in the early part of the year; this was, however, almost stamped out by the stringent quarantine and vaccination arrangements of yourself and the late Medical Officer, and what few villages were still in quarantine have since been dealt with.

The epidemics of influenza, whooping cough, and ophthalmia

are dealt with under dispensary report.

Vaccination Statistics.

The number of vaccination certificates issued during the last 12 months was 5,586, as compared with 6,207 for the year ending June 30th, 1895; there were also 1,877 free vaccinations for the year 1894–1895, but I am unable to give any idea of the amount of free vaccinations which has taken place during this year, as I can find no record, but presumably there must have been a good deal in connexion with the suppression and prevention of the small-pox epidemics.

Police Detachment.

Since my arrival here the health of the police and their families has been good, there having been no more cases of serious illness among them than among the general public in proportion to their strength.

I have, &c.

The Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng.

W. R. NATTLE, M.O.

TABLE I.

TABLE showing TOTAL NUMBER of PATIENTS for each Month and for the Year, and the commonest Diseases for which they sought relief, with Monthly and Annual Per-zentages.

Month.	New	1	hilis.	D	ys- psia.		ul- nary.	SI	kin.	E	yes.	In ti	tes- nal.	11	noop- ng ngh.	Tomo	uma- sm.	Go	nor- iœa.	Neu	rosis.	E	ars.	(nale den.	Uri	inary.		flu-	Car	rdiac.	M	inor nents
	Cases.	Total.	р. с.	Total.	р. с.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	р. с.	Total.	р. с.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	р. с.	Total.	р. с.	Total.	р. с.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	р. с.	Total.	р. с.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c	Total.	p. c.
July -	213	59	27.6	21	9.8	23	10.7	16	7.5	4	1.8	4	1.8		-	7	3.5	4	1.8	6	2.8	5	2.3	4	1.8	1	4.6			1	4.6	54	25:3
August .	163	33	20.2	23	14.1	13	7.9	17	10.4	4	2.4	1	.6	-		3	1.8	5	3.0		6.1	4	2.4	2	1.5	1	6.1	-	1.8		6.1	47	28.8
September	155	31	19.9	17	10.9	24	15.4	8	5.1	5	3.2	4	2.5		_	2	1.5	7	4.5	5	3.5	3	1.9	4	2.2	7	4.2	3 5	3.2	1	2.5		
October .	130	25	18.2	17	13.0	17	13.0	12	9.2	2	1.2	6	4.6	4	3.07		3.0	5	3.8	1	•7	1	.77	Z			2.3	1		4		29	18'7
November	82	9	10.9	5	6.0	4	4.8	8	9.7	-	-	12	14.6	4	4.8	1	1.2	4	4.8	4	TITE !	2	1		1.2	3	1	10	19:1	2	1.2	28	21.5
December	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	_		_	_	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	4.8		1		-	1	1.5	-	12.1	-	-	17	20.7
January -	139	23	17.3	20	14.3	9	6.4	7	5.0	13	6.4	15	10.7	9	6.4		•7	1	.7	2			-	-	-					-	-	-	100
February -	173	30	16.2	21	12.1	11	6.3	5	2.8	9	7.9	10	5.7		4.6	1					1.4	4	2.8	2	2.8	1	•7	-	-	2	1.4	34	23.4
March -	198	30	16.8	17	8.5	4	2.0	21	10.6		17.9	7	-	8	- 4	4	2.3	2	1.1	3	1.7	2	1.1		3.2	2	1.1	-	-	-		38	21.8
April -	225	38	18.9	24	10.6	19	8.4	20	8.8	14	7.7		3.2	10	5.0	5	2.2	7	3.2	8	4.0	6	3.0	7	1.7	1	5.0	-	-	2	1.0	58	29.9
May -	148	28	15.8	25	16.8	20	13.2	10	6.7			12	5.3	9	3.9	13	5.7	4	1.7	6	2.6	5	2.5	4	2.0	2	8.8	-	-	1	-4	42	18.6
June -	215	34	18.7	37	17.2		13.9	15	6.9	8	9.7	6	2.7	8	5.4	4	3.2	5	2.3	3 2	2.0	4 5	2.7	6	2.7	2 2	1·3 9·3	-	1 1	1	6	26 39	17.5
Totals	1,842	340	17.9	227	12.1	174	9.5	139	7.5	112	5.61	81	5.01	63	3.2	51	2.2	44	2.2	41	2.2	39	1.9		2.18	23	1.3	19	1.6	15	-	413	22.1

The average per-centage attendance for the year is calculated for eleven months only.

TABLE II.

TABLE showing Number of Subsequent Attendances per Month and for whole Year, and the commonest Ailments for which they re-attended, with Monthly and Annual Per-centages.

Month.	Subse-	Syph	ilis.	Dyspe	epsia.	Pulmo	nary.	Sk	in.	Fen Ge Orga	en.	Gonor	rhœa.	Rhe	eu- ics.	Neu	rosis.	E	yes.	н	.C.	Intest	ines.	Min	nor.
Month.	Attend- ance.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	р. с.	Total.	р. с.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p.c.	Total.	р. с.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	р. с.
July .	148	79	53.3	13	8.7	6	4.05	10	6.7	2	1.3	7	4.7	5	3.3	7	4.72	-	-	1	2.56	-	-	19	12.8
August -	52	28	53.7	4	7.6	4	7.8	6	11.2	2	3.8	2	3.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	11.2
September -	55	25	45.9	3	5.4	11	19.8	3	5.4	-	-	6	10.8	2	3.6	1	1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	7.2
October -	39	10	25.6	3	7.6	9	22.04	1	2.5	_	-	1	2.5	1	2.5	-	-	-	-	1	2.56	-	-	13	33.5
November -	18	_		_	_	_	_	10	5.2	1	5.2	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	11.0	5	27.5
December -	_	_	_	-	_	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	-	-	-	_	_	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-
January -	54	27	48.5	4	7.4	2	3.7	-	_	_	-	2	3.7	2	3.7	-	-	4	7.4	2	3.7	3	5.2	8	14.8
February -	71	20	28.	13	18.2	3	4.2	2	2.8	4	5.6	1	1.4	2	1.4	1	1'4	1	1.4	3	4.2	2.	2.8	19	26.6
March -	66	28	42.2	2	3.02	2	3.02		4.5	8	12.08	_	-	2	2.2	4	6.04	2	3.02	2 2	3.02	1	1.2	12	18.1
	59	20	33.8	8	13.2	7	11.8	1	1.6	7	11.83		_	2	2.2	2	3.38	2	3.38	3	5.07	2	3.3	5	8.4
April -					38.2	3	6.8		_		_	1	2.2	1	1.4	2	4.5	2	4.5	_	-	_	-	10	22.7
May	44	8	18.1	17			1				_	_	_	_	_	_	_	1	4.10	8 1	4.16	-	-	5	20.8
June	24	1	4.10	10	41.6	5	20.8	1	4.1										-	-		-	-	-	-
Totals -	630	248	32.0	77	13.8	52	9.44	37	8.28	24	3.65	20	2.66	17	2.24	17	1.98	12	2.17	7 13	1.06	10	2.2	106	18.2

The average per-centage attendance for the year is calculated on eleven months only.

Mohales Hoek, July 1, 1896.

BASUTOLAND. 1895-96.

MEDICAL REPORT for the Year ending 30th June 1896, MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT.

Public Health.

Small-pox was rife during the early part of the year in various parts of the district. In the Bataang Ward hardly a village escaped. It has been impossible to obtain reliable statistical information as to the number of cases, or the number of deaths, but there is every reason to suppose that the mortality was extremely small. Every facility for vaccination in the infected areas was given, but comparatively few availed themselves of its protection. The people seemed to have little fear of the disease, and to doubt its true nature.

Except a few cases of influenza and measles, no other epidemic

disease has come under my notice.

The general health of the police detachment and of the prisoners in gaol has been excellent.

The Public Dispensary and Hospital.

The attendance during the past year has been somewhat in excess of the previous 12 months. The total number of attendances (exclusive of vaccinations) was 1,922. Of these 1,576 were new cases and 346 subsequent attendances. 1,253 persons paid a sixpenny fee. 3,955 vaccination certificates were issued to persons leaving the territory. 34 persons were treated as in-patients. Syphilis, as usual, figures more largely than it should, one case in every eight being of a syphilitic nature.

The other cases do not call for any special remark.

I have met with no fresh cases of leprosy.

I have, &c.

W. M. EATON, M.B., M.O.

Sir, Moyeni, June 30, 1896.

I HAVE the honour of forwarding to you a report of the work done in this district during the past year.

Owing to the numerous changes of the medical officers of this district an accurate report is scarcely possible.

The total number of patients treated at the dispensary is 1,174. Dyspepsia and other minor ailments of the same order form a large proportion of this number.

Syphilis is very prevalent here and does not seem to be on the

decrease.

The total number of vaccinations performed is 3,364. Of this number 1,280 were free.

There have been outbreaks of small-pox at the following villages:—

	Date	•		Name of	Vill	age.		No. of Cases.	Result.
Sept.	1895	_		Raukadi		-		13	1 succumbed.
"	"		-	Damana	-	-	-	3	2 1 6 M 2 - 174
"	"	_	-	Motoli -	-	11.	-	2	
"	,,	-	-	Stokne -	-		-	3	7
Oct.	"	-		Kabi -	-	-	-	1	-
	1896	_		Moelatse	-	-		63	4 succumbed.
,,	,,			Lejoyane	-	-	-	2	_
April		-	-	Piudo -	-	-	-	. 15	_
"	"	_	-	Matselatsatsa	-		-	1	-
May	99	-	4	Tungala -	-		-	1	
"	"	-		Hlothoa -	-		-	5	1 succumbed.
"	"			Mphoto	-	-	-	11	_
June	"	-	-	Stala -	-	-	-	6	1 succumbed.

In each case the village was placed in quarantine and the inhabitants vaccinated.

The health of the police detachment has been good The sanitary condition of the station is satisfactory and there is now a good supply of water of good quality.

I am, &c.

H. R. FORSTER TOWNE.

To the Assistant Commissioner, Moyeni.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 192.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 166.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,

May 1897.



LONDON:

PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:

ANNUAL.

No.		Color	ıy.				Year.
156	Mauritius -	• 9					1894
157	Labuan -	-	•			-	"
158	Gold Coast					-	,,
. 159	British Guiana	•	-		•	-	1894-5
160	Sierra Leone	3- 2	•	•	•	-	1894
161	Jamaica -	-	-	-			1894–95
162	British Honduras		•	-	•	-	1894
163	British Bechuana	land	-			-	1894-95
164	Newfoundland	•	-		-	-	1894
165	Gambia -		-		-	-	1895
166	Bermuda -	•	-	, -	-	-	"
167	Leeward Islands	*17.00		•	- 14	- 1-	1894
168	British New Guin	nea	-	-		-	1894-95
169	Zululand -	10000	•	-	•	-	1895
170	Sierra Leone	•	-	•	-	-	"
171	Gibraltar -			•			99
172	Malta -					-	,,
173	Barbados -		-		-		27
174	Turks and Caicos		3 -			-	77 .
175	Falkland Islands	•	•	-		-	>>
176	St. Helena	•	-			. (-	77
177	Bahamas -	•	-	•	-	•	,,,
178	Hong Kong	-	-	•		-	22
179	Windward Island	3 -		•	-		. ,,
180	Labuan -	•	-	-		-	27
181	Trinidad and Tob	ago			•	-	97
182	Seychelles	•	-	- '	-	-	"
183	Mauritius and Ro	drigues	•	-		-	1894 and
104	DWITT 1						1895
184	British Honduras	•	•	7 Test		-	1895
185	Lagos -	•		•	•		"
186	Basutoland	•	. 7000	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	•	-	1895-96
187	Ceylon -	•	•		•		1895
188	British Guiana	•	•			-	1895–96
189	Gold Coast	•				-	1895
190	Jamaica -	•			•	-	1895-96
191	Canada -	•					1895

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony	7.		Subject.
1	Gold Coast	•		Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	-		Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	4 7	-	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -			Emigration.
5	Bahamas -	-		Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	-	- 1 to - 40	Bubonic Plague.
6	Newfoundland			Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	-	-	Solomon Islands.

No. 192.

BERMUDA. 1896.

3

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 166.)

Governor Barker to Mr. Chamberlain.

SIR. Bermuda, March 23, 1897. I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1896, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary. I have, &c.

> G. DIGBY BARKER, Lieut.-Gen., Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Bermuda, SIR. March 16, 1897. I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the

following report on the Blue Book for the year 1896:-

FINANCE.

2. The revenue for the year amounted to 34,256l., and the expenditure to 34,717l. Compared with 1895, the revenue shows a decrease of 3,573l. and the expenditure an increase of 1,712l.

The revenue returns for 1895 included a sum of 1,000l. refunded to the Treasury by the local savings bank on account of a temporary advance made during the preceding year, and a sum of 1,050%, being the premium received on the loan of 40,000%. issued in 1893-94.

Owing to the enhanced value of consols, in which the funds of the savings banks are invested, the excess of the assets of the bank over its liabilities amounted in 1895 to 2,1701., and in 1896 to 1,000l., and these amounts were, in accordance with the provisions of a local Act, paid into the Treasury.

Excluding these abnormal receipts, the revenue in 1896 shows

a decrease, compared with 1895, of 353l.

o 97320. Wt. 20408. PERMUDA. 1896. 3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1896 with that of 1895:—

REVENUE.

				Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
1895				£ 27,451	£ 10,379	£ 37,830
896		-	-	26,717	7,539	34,256
	Decrease -			734	2,840	3,574

EXPENDITURE.

				Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
1895				£ 17,0 5 5	£ 15,951	£ 33,006
896		-		19,007	15,710	34,717
	Increase -			1,952	_	1,711
	Decrease -	•	-		241	_

Compared with 1895, the following were the principal differences shown in the disbursements:—

			£	
Public Debt, an increase of -	•		1,503	
Library, ,,	-	•	430	
Whilst in the— Post Office there was a decrease of			552	
Lunatic Asylum ,,	•	-	404	

The increase under the heading of "Library" is due to the importation of a large quantity of books, and under the heading of "Public Debt" to the appropriation of 1,000l. in connexion with the sinking fund created for paying off the debt of 40,000l. incurred in 1893-94 for the improvement of the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour, and to the payment of 500l. to reduce the debt due on the New Government House account.

The expenditure in 1896 out of the loan raised in 1893-94 in connexion with the improvement of the channels amounted to 21,141l.

4. The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

BERMUDA: 1896.

Governor's salary - - 2,199
Military establishments - - 105,432

Compared with 1895, the latter return shows an increase of 3,2021.

The expenditure on the naval establishments is not returned.

PUBLIC DEBT.

5. The Public Debt at the end of 1896 amounted to 46,600l., made up as follows:—

Local Inscribed Stock - - 40,000 New Government House Debentures - 6,600

The rate of interest on the local inscribed stock is $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., and the average rate of interest on the Government House debentures is $4\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. Both of these loans were issued locally.

The local inscribed stock, which was issued in 1893-4, is redeemable at par in 1923, and the sum of 1,000l., being the first annual instalment to be paid on account of the sinking fund created in connexion therewith, was remitted last year to London for investment.

PUBLIC WORKS.

6. The contract entered into in 1893 between the Board of Public Works and Messrs. S. Pearson & Son, of Victoria Street, Westminster, to deepen and widen, at a cost of about 38,000l., the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour so as to obtain a minimum depth of 20 feet at mean low water and a minimum width of 92 feet at the bottom of the channels, was successfully completed in March, 1896.

LEGISLATION.

The regular session of 1895 did not close until the 27th January 1896. The Acts passed in this session in 1896 do not call for special notice.

The regular session of 1896 commenced on the 29th May and was not closed until after the commencement of 1897.

Of the 28 Acts passed in this session during 1896, only one is of sufficient importance to require notice here, viz., "The Public Garden Act, 1896."

This measure provides for the purchase and improvement of a tract of land of not less than ten acres, the purchase of plant and erection of buildings suitable for horticultural purposes, and for procuring the services of a superintendent at a salary not exceeding 300l. per annum.

BERMUDA. 1896. The agricultural problem that this Colony has to face, with its small area, a little over 10,000 acres with about 2,500 under cultivation, small holdings, and high price of land and labour, is not an easy one to solve, and whether the establishment of an experimental garden on the lines put forward by the Legislature will justify the contemplated expenditure and thus tend to satisfactorily solve the problem is a question which it would be hard to answer. Under the heading of "Exports" in this report, allusion is made to two companies which were formed with the object of aiding the agricultural interests of this community. These companies, however, suffered such financial losses that they were unable to continue their operations and this has naturally rendered the Legislature more anxious with regard to the matter.

The following extract from a letter which I have received from one of the leading planters in the Colony will furnish some idea of the return persons directly dependent for a living on the products

of the soil expect from the land here :-

"I probably farm as much land as any other person in the Colony, and that amounts to only about 25 acres in all. You will see that the average size of holdings is very small, five acres

would be considered a fair-size farm here."

"I consider an industrious and intelligent man should clear about 40l. per annum from an acre of average land, building on fair crop and prices. I personally in good years have made about 100l. from an acre of ground, principally from lilies."

During the year 22 resolves were passed appropriating 7,168l.

for services not otherwise provided for by law.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

General Thomas Casey Lyons left Bermuda on the 28th May and Lieut.-Col. Moore administered the Government from that date to the 6th July, when Lieut.-Gen. G. Digby Barker arrived

in the Colony and assumed the Government.

Mr. Allan F. Smith, Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed Colonial Postmaster in the room of Mr. A. G. Butter-field resigned, Mr. F. Goodwin Gosling, Assistant Clerk of the Assembly, being appointed clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office, and Mr. E. H. Gosling appointed Assistant Clerk of the Assembly.

Mr. E. M. C. Smith, M.R.C.S, L.R.C.P., was appointed Health Officer for the Eastern District, in the room of Surgeon-Captain

Gubbin resigned.

IMPORTS (exclusive of specie).

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at 75l.)

in 1896 was 304,895l.

Compared with 1895, this shows a decrease of 579l., but with 1894 an increase of 20.943l., and with 1893 a decrease of 16,418l.

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1895 and 1896 is shown in the following table:—

BERMUDA. 1896.

10 3			the state of the s
		1895.	1896.
	United Kingdom	£ 88,383	£ 90,025
	Canada	19,639	20,886
	Other British Colonies	8,403	7,756
	United States of America -	187,385	184,391
	Other Countries	1,664	1,837
	Total	305,474	304,895

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1896 were clothing, valued at 5,016*l*.; cotton goods, 12,249*l*.; woollen goods, 13,590*l*.; oilman's stores, 5,153*l*.; jewellery and plated ware, 3,413*l*.; sugar 4,205*l*.; and malt liquor 18,090*l*.

The principal imports from the United States of America were butter, valued at 9,637l.; flour, 16,312l.; groceries, 5,837l. leather manufactures, 5,424l.; smoked and pickled meat, 11,884l. oxen and cows, 28,802l.

EXPORTS (exclusive of specie).

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie, valued at 7,550%) in 1896 was 101,063%.

Compared with 1895, this shows a decrease of 7,955l., but with 1894 an increase of 6,729l.

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1895 and 1896:—

	1895.	1896.
United Kingdom	£ 2,129	£ 2,853
Canada	- 1,204	3,210
Other British Colonies -	- 1,351	2,847
United States of America	- 103,577	91,407
Other Countries	757	746
Total	109,018	101,063

BERMUDA. 1896. The principal export to the United Kingdom in 1896 was

hides, valued at 1,723l.

The principal exports to the United States were onions, valued at 54,843*l*., an increase compared with the preceding year of 10,419*l*.; lily bulbs, valued at 12,431*l*., a decrease compared with the preceding year of 15,939*l*.; and potatoes, 18,817*l*., a decrease of 7,678*l*.

It is claimed that instead of an increase being shown, as compared with 1895, in the value of the onion crop, of over 10,000l. there would have been a decrease of at least 20,000l., if it had not

been for the Bermuda Produce Exchange.

The Exchange was a company which was incorporated with limited liability just before the commencement of the last crop season, under the provisions of a local Act, to control and handle the crops, other than lily bulbs, shipped to New York, and thus avoid competition between our local merchants and planters, which it was held in part accounted for the unremunerative prices obtained of late years in that market.

The quantity of bulbs shipped in 1896 fell very little short of that shipped in 1895, but the decrease in the value, as gathered

from official returns, amounted to over 57 per cent.

I am informed by a gentleman who is largely interested in this business that this great fall in the value of the bulbs, as shown by the returns, is certainly partly due to the fact that a syndicate which was formed in 1895 to control this particular crop did not continue its operations in 1896, and, possibly, he also considers, to incorrect valuation arising from the difficulty, in the absence of a syndicate, of the majority of shippers estimating with any degree of accuracy the price at which their consignments will be disposed of. He does not consider that this decrease in value was caused by a disease which prevailed to some extent amongst the plants.

Whether, however, the operation of the Produce Exchange and the Lily Bulb Syndicate did or did not benefit this community as as whole, the fact remains that the affairs of the Exchange had to be placed in the hands of a Receiver, and the Bulb Syndicate, owing principally also, I understand, to its financial losses in 1895,

had to suspend operations.

POPULATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Registrar-General estimated the resident civilian population of these islands at the end of 1896 at 15,952, comprising 6,117 white (3,007 males and 3,110 females), and 9,835 coloured persons (4,558 males and 5,277 females).

The birth rate was 31.4, and the death rate 19.8, per 1,000.

Of the births, 14.1 were illegitimate.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1896 was 3,056, and the deaths numbered 11, the rate of mortality thus being about 3.5 per 1,000. Of these deaths five were due to enteric fever.

The senior medical officer in charge of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been very good. Average strength of the garrison, 1,387; number of admissions to hospital, 653; ratio of admission per 1,000 of strength, 470.8; number of deaths, 8; average number of daily sick, 37.26; average sick time to each soldier, 9.83 days; average duration of each case of sickness, 20.88 days. Average strength of officers, 61; cases of sickness, 31; death, none.

The principal naval medical officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 302, an increase on the previous year of 81; the increase being chiefly due to diseases of the respiratory and digestive organs, such as bronchitis and diarrhea, of no great importance. There has been no epidemic disease, and of enteric fever only

four cases, with one death.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 462, an increase, compared with 1895, of 12,

and a decrease, compared with 1894, of 34.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 389, of whom 211 were summarily convicted, 54 discharged for want of evidence, 100 acquitted, and 24 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 211 persons summarily convicted, 150 were fined, eight imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 33 were peremptorily imprisoned

and 20 bound over to keep the peace.

Twenty cases were tried in the superior courts during the year and the convictions numbered 12. Of these, three were for offences against the person and nine for offences against property.

GAOLS.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 89 (80 males and 9 females). Of these, 32 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 57 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Seven patients (five males and two females) were admitted into the asylum in 1896, none were discharged, and one died.

The daily average number of patients was 40.

EDUCATION.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns: -22 aided primary schools; 1,322 scholars (725 boys and 597 girls); school fees, 589l.; Government contributions, 1,105l.

o 97320.

BERMUDA. 1896.

BERMUDA. 1896. One aided secondary school with 43 scholars (26 boys and 17 girls); school fees, 116l.; Government contributions, 67l.

In addition to two garrison schools and one dockyard school there are about 30 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The returns from the observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 115 feet above sea level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·128 inches; mean temperature of the air, 69·7 degrees; mean relative humidity, 85 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8·9 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 59·38 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past 6 years, 4·51 inches less; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 119.

BOARD OF TRADE STATISTICS.

The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below:—

Population.

1		Males.	Females.	Total.
1895	-	7,475	8,319	15,794
1896		7,565	8,387	15,952

	-		
	1895. 2 37,829 33,005 27,451 47,100 Tons. 361,683 d - 286,695	1896.	
	I	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue -	-	37,829	34,256
Gross amount of public expenditure -	-	33,005	34,717
Customs revenue	-	27,451	26,717
Public debt	-	47,100	46,600
		Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared	-	361,683	391,475
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared	-	286,695	338,312
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared	-	74,988	53,163
Connage of sailing vessels entered and cleared	-	34,140	40,339
Connage of steam vessels entered and cleared	-	327,543	351,136
		£	£
Value of total imports (including specie) Value of total imports of gold and silver bullic	- on	305,514	304,970
and specie (so far as can be stated) -	-	40	75

	1895.	1896.	BERMUDA. 1896.
Value of imports from the United Kingdom	£	£	
(including specie)	88,383	90,025	
Value of total exports (including specie) Value of total exports of gold and silver bullion	115,913	108,613	
and specie (so far as can be stated) Value of total exports to the United Kingdom	6,895	7,550	
(including specie) Amount of expenditure from loans on public	2,129	2,853	
works	4,464	21,141	

I have, &c.

ARCHIBALD ALISON, Colonial Secretary.

To his Excellency
Lieut.-Gen. George Digby Barker, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 188.

BRITISH GUIANA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895-6.

(For Report for 1894-5, see No. 159 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

January 1897.



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1897.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Co	lony.				Year.
155	Ceylon		100			1894
156	Mauritius -	_			-	,,
157	Labuan	-	-		-	,,
158	Gold Coast -	-	-10		-	"
159	British Guiana -	-	40.0			1894-95
160	Sierra Leone -	-	-	30-	1 2 4	1894
161	Jamaica				-	1894-95
162	British Honduras -	-	-			1894
163	British Bechuanaland	-	-	-	-	1894-95
164	Newfoundland -	-	-		1.	1894
165	Gambia	-	7 -	-	010-5	"
166	Bermuda -	-		-	-	"
167	Leeward Islands -	-		-	-	"
168	British New Guinea	-	-	-		1894-95
169	Zululand	-		-	-	1895
170	Sierra Leone -	-		-	-	"
171	Gibraltar	-	-	-	-	"
172	Malta	-	40.		- L	"
173	Barbados	-	-	-	-	"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	-		-	~ -	"
175	Falkland Islands -	-	-	-	-	"
176	St. Helena -	-	-		-	"
177	Bahamas	-		and the	-	,,
178	Hong Kong -	-		-	-	"
179	Windward Islands	-	-	-	-	,,
180	Labuan -	•	-		-	"
181	Trinidad and Tobago	-	- 25		-	"
182	Seychelles -	-		-	-	,,
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	•		-4	V - 1	1894 and 1895
184	British Honduras -				-	1895
185	Lagos	-			_	,,
186	Basutoland -		Contract of the		-	1895-6
187	Ceylon -	a prompte .		-		1895
	Gold Coast				-	"
		1. 1. 1. 1.				"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony		Subject.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Gold Coast - Zululand - Sierra Leone Canada - Bahamas - Hong Kong Newfoundland	• st 1	Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany. Emigration. Sisal Industry. Bubonic Plague. Mineral Resources.

No. 188.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-6.

BRITISH GUIANA.

(For Report for 1894-5 see No. 159.)

The ACTING GOVERNOR to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Georgetown, Demerara,

SIR.

November 12, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of the Colony of British Guiana for the year 1895-6, with the usual report thereon by the Assistant Government Secretary.

I have, &c.

CAVENDISH BOYLE.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1895-96.

TAXATION.

The taxes levied for revenue purposes during the year were, with a few alterations, the same as those imposed on the 14th September 1894, on the termination of the commercial Agreement with the United States; the principal alterations being the removal of the duty on beef and pork, the increase of duty on eigars and tobacco, and the increase of the ad valorem duties from 8 to 10 per cent.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The year under review yielded a revenue of 567,749l., less by 20,496l. than that of the previous year.

o 95220. Wt. 20348.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-6. There was no increase on any item which calls for special mention, but the principal items which exhibit a decrease are the following:—

	1894-5.	1895-6.	Cause.
Wines and spirits -	£ 49,267	£ 27,359	Large unbonding in previous year in anticipation of increased duty.
Beacon and tonnage -	10,786	8,594	Less shipping. No change in rates.
Rum duty	64,266	54,266	Less consumed. Several retail spirit shops closed.
Acreage tax	3,674	62	No portion now carried to general revenue.
Royalty on gold -	24,936	22,740	Less gold obtained.
Government establishments.	10,387	8,086	Change in system of accounts.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year amounted to 596,493l., being 10,011l. more than the expenditure for the previous year and 28,644l. more than the revenue for 1895-96.

The following are the principal items of expenditure which

show an increase :-

					The state of the s
			1894-5.	1895-6.	Cause.
D Off			£ 27,113	28,659	Extension of services.
Post Office		Sec.	21,110	20,000	LIAUCHSTON OF BOLTECOS
Militia -		-	5,044	6,587	Capitation fees, ammunition, &c.
Roads -		-	25,427	28,479	Grants in aid of sugar estates' roads for full year.
Municipal		-	8,894	11,303	Special grants for sanitary improvements.
Special expend on developed districts.	liture ch ment of	gold	2,612	6,272	Construction of roads in interior and other works of development.

THE PUBLIC DEBT

The public debt of the Colony on 31st March 1896 was—

£

For sums borrowed for public purposes for which the revenue of the Colony is directly pledged - - - 748,400

For sums borrowed by corporations or public bodies under the authority of special laws, and on the security of the revenue of the Colony - - 184,304

the total amount for which the revenue of the Colony is pledged being, therefore, 932,704l., more by 76,125l. than on the corresponding date in 1895.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-6.

But from out of the first-mentioned sum there has been lent to corporations and public bodies on security of their revenues a sum of 338,885*l.*, and, therefore, the amount by which the total public debt is reduced by loans repayable is really 523,189*l.*, leaving a public debt, for money borrowed and spent on public works, of 409,515*l.*

The following is a statement of loans and advances referred to in the last paragraph:—

To the Mayor and Town Council of George-	
town	105,416
To the Mayor and Town Council of New	
Amsterdam	18,645
To Commissioners in aid of water supply	
works	135,323
Miscellaneous loans recoverable	79,501

Full provision for sinking funds and interest in respect of all loans by the Government is made annually.

IMPORTS.

The imports amounted to 1,443,553l., as compared with 1,668,750l. in the previous year.

The following table shows the principal articles of food imported and the source from which they were obtained:

	18	94–95.	18	95–96.	1895-96.	1895–96.	Principal Countries whence
Articles Imported.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase in Value.	Decrease in Value.	Imported.
Beef, pickled - brls.	11,834	£ s. d. 29,028 15 3	11,321	\pounds s. d. 26,341 8 $11\frac{1}{2}$	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 2,687 6 4	United States, Brit. North America.
Bread and biscuits - lbs.	654,378	5,861 11 21/2	450,384	3,483 3 4½	-	2,378 7 10	United Kingdom, United States.
Butter ,, Corn and pulse - bushls.	647,361 162,794	25,982 8 4 32,132 13 0	566,381 148,513	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		4,507 3 10 3,123 7 $1\frac{1}{2}$	
Cornmeal and oatmeal lbs.	1,485,374	$5,070 8 3\frac{1}{2}$	1,071,480	3,409 10 7	-	1,660 17 $8\frac{1}{2}$	States, East Indies. United Kingdom, United States.
Fish, dried cwt.	69,074	62,523 14 9	67,692	52,121 17 10	/ .	10,401 16 11	Brit. North America, United States.
Flour brls.	203,254	$147,812 6 10\frac{1}{2}$	174,803	129,091 7 $9\frac{1}{2}$		18,720 19 1	Brit. North America, United States.
Lard lbs.	386,242	$6,151 2 4\frac{1}{2}$	370,804	$5,088 1 3\frac{1}{2}$	-	1,063 1 1	United States.
Onions "	3,282,346	7,859 0 4	2,545,590	$6,268 0 9\frac{1}{2}$	-	1,590 19 $6\frac{1}{2}$	Madeira, Teneriffe.
Pork brls.	19,266	55,281 3 6	28,680	$69,174 4 9\frac{1}{2}$	13,893 1 $3\frac{1}{2}$	-	United States, Brit. North America.
Rice lbs.	33,219,824	138,876 9 2	49,262,831	$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	44,517 9 $6\frac{1}{2}$		United Kingdom, East Indies, French W. Indies.

EXPORTS.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-96.

The following is a comparative statement of the exports of the Colony in the year 1894-5 and 1895-6, showing the principal countries to which they were sent:—

	V	alue.	Increase.	Decrease.	Principal Countries
Articles.	1894–95.	1895–96.	1895–96.	1895–96.	exported to.
Sugar Rum	£ s. d. 1,246,894 2 5 97,781 2 7	. £ s. d. 1,046,160 8 3½ 121,144 19 8	£ s. d. - 23,363 17 1	£ s. d. 200,733 14 1½	United Kingdom, United States, B. N. America. United Kingdom, B. N.
Molasses	20,649 4 7	15,986 15 0		4,662 9 7½	America, Dutch W. Indies. B. N. America, French W. Indies, French Guiana, Holland.
Gold	496,899 8 6	444,990 11 10	-	51,908 16 8	United Kingdom.
Timber	16,985 2 0	13,310 10 3	-	3,674 11 9	United Kingdom, Holland.
Charcoal Gum, Balata -	8,344 15 4 11,483 5 5	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		1,131 3 11½ 2,560 7 8	British W. Indies, Ber- muda. United Kingdom.
Do., other -	100 6 0	122 18 41/2	12 12 41		Do.
Shingles	2,444 17 8		-	1,190 18 11½	British W. Indies, Dutch Guiana, Dutch W. Indies,
Hides	1,675 12 9	895 15 61	-	779 17 2½	F. W. Indies. United Kingdom, French W. Indies.
Cocoanuts	3 2 6		-	3 2 6	British W. Indies.
Chocolate	827 17 5	313 4 4½		$514 \ 13 \ 0\frac{1}{2}$	United Kingdom, British W. Indies.
Cocoa Isinglass	2,719 6 11 300 8 3	2,374 5 1 445 1 5	144 13 2	345 1 10	United Kingdom, United States. United Kingdom.
Cattle and live stock	2,734 17 6	2,196 17 6		538 0 0	Dutch Guiana, French
Bread and biscuits	126 7 8	145 6 8	18 18 111	_	Guiana. Dutch Guiana, French
Firewood	121 17 6	9 10 0		112 7 6	Guiana. British W. Indies.
Fibre	71 3 4	13 8 7½		57 14 9	Do.
Lumber	325 18 10	740 17 8	414 18 10	_	United Kingdom, British
Plantains	44 7 11	351 1 51/2	306 13 61	_	W. Indies, Dutch Guiana. British W. Indies.
Coffee	236 11 8	444 7 6	207 15 10	there is las	United Kingdom.
Corn and pulse -	22 10 0	22 7 6		2 6	British W. Indies, French
Miscellaneous -	695 3 3	876 14 4	181 11 1		Guiana.
Total Colonial produce	1,911,497 10 2	1,667,935 8 113	24,651 0 101	268,213 2 1	
Total Foreign produce -	128,403 11 7	101,564 19 6			
Total exports -	2,039,901 1 9	1,769,500 8 51			
Net decrease, Colonial produce, 1895–96 - Net decrease, Foreign produce, 1895–96	- Jan	_	-	243,562 1 2½ 26,838 12 1	
	2,039,901 1 9	1,769,500 8 51		270,400 13 31	

BRITISH GUIANA 1895-6. The following statement shows the direction and value of the trade of the Colony in 1894-5 and 1895-6:—

Imports.							Exports.							
Countries.			1894-95. 1895-96.		1894-95.			1895-96.						
United Kingdom			£ 882,389		d. 0	£ 789,817		d. 9	£ 1,273,946		$\frac{d}{2}$	£ 968,252		d. 4
United States -			435,785	14	5	381,646	17	$1\frac{1}{2}$	597,287	0	51/2	657,693	4	10
British N. America		+ -	96,996	15	5	69,345	16	0	26,411	9	$6\frac{1}{2}$	42,354	8	7
British W. Indies		-	47,752	6	101	50,598	16	111	38,149	6	1	15,841	19	11
Bermuda -			720	14	10	241	9	$1\frac{1}{2}$	1,437	14	71/2	2,810	16	1
East Indies -			112,261	7	1	84,329	14	$7\frac{1}{2}$	237	5	4	109	16	8
Foreign countries of United States	her	than	92,844	10	9	67,573	4	71/2	102,229	2	91/2	81,699	18	3
Newfoundland			-			-			202	12	9	738	2	9
Totals		•	1,668,750	9	43	1,443,553	5	21/2	2,039,901	1	9	1,769,500	8	5

SHIPPING.

The following statement shows the number of vessels entered and cleared at the ports of the Colony during the year 1895-96:—

		Entered.		Cleared.				
Ports.	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No. Tons. 198 156,287 15 14,472 - 213 170,759 323 77,018 23 5,173 -	Crews.			
Steam Vessels :— Georgetown, Demerara	223	189,348	8,086	198	156,287	7,568		
New Amsterdam, Berbice -	10	8,112	231	15	14,472	357		
North-Western District	-		-					
Totals	233	197,460	8,317	213	170,759	7,925		
Sailing Vessels:— Georgetown, Demerara	363	82,883	3,007	323	77,018	2,883		
New Amsterdam, Berbice -	23	4,922	166	23	5,173	173		
North-Western District	37*	40	74	-		_		
Totals	423	87,845	3,247	346	82,191	3,056		
Totals, steam and sailing vessels -	656	285,305	11,564	559	252,950	10,981		

^{*} These are small boats entering the Port of Barima. Clearance statistics have not been kept.

The following comparative table for the years 1894-5 and 1895-6 distinguishes steam from sailing vessels:

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-6.

9

Wl-		1894–5.		18	395-6.	Incraa	se, 1895–6.	Decrease, 1895-6.		
Vessels.			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered :—									7	
Steam vessels		-	246	214,881	233	197,460	-	-	13	17,421
Sailing vessels			513	112,692	423	87,845	-	-	90	24,847
Totals		•	759	322,573	656	285,305			103	42,268
Cleared :—										
Steam vessels	-	. •	259	225,872	213	170,759	-	-	46	55,113
Sailing vessels			492	117,773	346	82,191	-	-	146	35,582
Totals			751	343,645	559	252,950	_	Y	192	90,695

LOCAL REVENUES.

Georgetown, on the Demerara river (pop. 53,000), the seat of government, and New Amsterdam, on the Berbice river, (pop. 8,903), are the two principal towns of the Colony, and their affairs are administered by municipal councils with power to raise local revenues, which are supplemented by grants from general revenue of 4,166l. and 1,041l. respectively. The town of Bartica at the junction of the Essequebo and Mazaruni rivers is also gradually rising in importance. It has a fluctuating population, and is the principal stopping place between Georgetown and the gold diggings in those rivers and the Cuyuni.

The total revenues of Georgetown amounted to 52,211l., towards which a tax of 2 per cent. on houses and land yielded 28,2191. and market dues 5,971l. The expenditure was 50,203l.; bonds redeemable and interest account absorbed 11,387l., the council's moiety of the fire brigade 4,668l., street lighting 3,271l.,

labour and sanitary superintendence 6,424l.

In New Amsterdam the total revenue, including loans, was 15,4511., a house and land tax like that in Georgetown yielding 3,650l., and market fees 984l. The expenditure was 12,935l., of which there was spent on roads, bridges, &c., 1,442l. on water works improvements 4,971l., and on repayment of

Government loans 1,130l.

Eighteen villages scattered throughout the Colony, with a total population of 32,573, raised amongst themselves a gross revenue of 5,273l, and spent on drainage 2,687l, roads, dams, and bridges 585l., and salaries and contingencies, 1,763l. The balance due to the Colony in respect of loans made from time to time was 17,224l. A sum of 2,083l. was voted by the Combined Court and placed at the disposal of the Central Board of Health to meet BRITISH GUIANA, 1895-6. urgent and unforeseen expenses, and at the close of the year the unexpended balance was distributed amongst those villages where it was most needed for sanitary works.

IMMIGRATION.

After the unusually large number of immigrants introduced from India the previous year, 7,160, it is not surprising that the number obtained during the period under review should have fallen to 2,412 (1,435 men, 612 women, and 265 children and infants). 13 also came to the Colony at their own expense and, of course, unindentured.

Three return ships carried back to India 2,071 immigrants and they took with them savings amounting to 20,791*l*. in money and 4,062*l*. in jewellery.

The East Indian immigrant population of the Colony on the 31st December 1895 is shown in the following table:—

	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Indentured	14,463	6,107	20,480
Unindentured	22,012	13,146	35,158
Children	8,787	7,352	16,139
Total on estates	45,262	26,515	71,777
Approximate number not residing on estates		-	43,972
			115,749

These immigrants owned 14,339 head of cattle and 4,069 sheep, and had to their credit in the Government Savings Bank 103,540l. This sum is less by 13,759l. than the amount at their credit 12 months before, but the remittances to India were 1,348l. in excess, and on comparison the figures appear to show that while the East Indian population have to some extent felt the general depression they have not suffered as much as other classes of the community.

The labourers' correspondence with their relatives and friends in India, which is fostered by the Immigration Department, consisted of 2,224 letters sent through the Department, and 1,040 letters registered at the Post Office containing remittances to the extent of 2,406l.

PUBLIC WORKS.

There was comparatively little work done under this head during the year, and the expenditure was limited to requirements of absolute necessity. The current revenue for the year was

charged with 28,629*l*. and this sum included hospitals, 1,821*l*.; bridges, 997*l*.; police stations, 2,929*l*.; public officers' quarters for which rent is received, 2,049*l*.; repairs to military buildings, 2,450*l*., and stellings, 1,817*l*.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-6. 119

The loan account was drawn upon to the extent of 4,8921., and the principal items were Mahaica sea defences, 2,6591.; erecting guns at Fort William Frederick, 7361., and the Jurors' House at Suddie, 6701.

AGRICULTURE.

The following is a comparative statement of the quantities and gross value of sugar, rum, and molasses exported in 1894-5 and 1895-96:—

			1894	4-5.	1895-6.			
			Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.		
			Tons.	£	Tons.	£		
Sugar -	- 4	•	102,502 Gals.	1,246,894	101,160 Gals.	1,046,160		
Rum -	-	-	1,892,538	97,781	2,261,750	121,144		
Molasses	-	-	1,137,960	20,649	737,850	15,986		

The average prices prevailing in 1894-5 and 1895-6 are also shown below:—

	1894–5.	1895-6.		
Sugar, vacuum pan, sold in United Kingdom per ton	£ s. d. 13 7 $0\frac{1}{2}$	£ s. d. $10 \ 9 \ 7\frac{1}{2}$		
" refining, sold in United States - per ton	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$10 \ 9 \ 7\frac{1}{2}$ $10 \ 9 \ 8$		
" Molasses	10 7 11	7 15 11		
Rum per puncheon	5 3 4	5 7 $1\frac{1}{2}$		

It will be seen that there has been a further and yet more serious fall in the value of the staple product of this Colony, and notwithstanding a slight improvement in prices towards the close of the year the position of the sugar growers remains one of grave anxiety. Many estates changed hands at prices below the cost of the buildings on them. Some are in process of abandonment, and only those more favourably situated and well equipped were able to make a profit on the year's working. There was apparently but a very slight reduction in the acreage under cane cultivation, the figures being 67,921 acres, against 68,391 for the

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-6. previous year, but it must be remembered that partially abandoned estates are returned as cultivated until the process is complete.

The average rate of wages on sugar estates is stated to have remained the same, but a general increase of provision growing by the small farmers has cheapened the cost of vegetables and farm produce considerably.

MINING.

The gold production of the Colony for the year under review amounted to 121,285 oz., and yielded a royalty of 22,740l. The following table, showing the rise of the gold industry during the last 10 years, is interesting:—

					ozs.
1887 -	-	-	-	-	10,986
1888-1889			-	-	20,216
1889-1890		- 1	-	15.4	32,332
1890-1891	-	-	-	-	66,864
1891-1892		-	4	-	110,555
1892-1893	-		-	-	134,124
1893-1894	-	-	-	-	138,527
1894-1895			-	-	132,994
1895-1896		-	-	-	121,285

It would be a mistake to regard the falling off in the last two years as indicative of the general condition of the industry. In 1893-4 practically the whole of the available capital in the Colony was devoted to placer mining, but since then a large proportion has been withdrawn for the development of quartz reefs and the flotation of companies to work them, which so far have not yielded any return. An unremunerative interval of two years in the case of mines assaying richly and full of promise may seem long to those unfamiliar with the natural difficulties to be overcome. The dense forests, broad creeks, and strong currents which must be cleared, crossed, and stemmed before one ton of machinery can be taken to the spot where its work is to be done have offered obstacles perhaps as great as miner ever knew. But they have been surmounted, and at the time of writing one mill of twenty stamps has been crushing for some weeks in the heart of the North-West District, while two others are in course of erection. From the former there has been a steady yield of about an ounce per ton. These pioneer works carried on in a virgin forest with but a scanty supply of technical and scientific aid have been costly, and the financial resources of the people have been severely strained. In these circumstances it is a matter for congratulation that the placer yield has maintained its position so well as to be only some 9 per cent. less than in the previous year. In the meantime it has been demonstrated by local enterprise that rich quartz exists in large quantities within reach of the pickaxe and the mill, and with the influx of English capital which must follow a wider knowledge of the possibilities of the country a prosperous future may well be predicted.

As regards the general development of the industry, the progress made may be regarded as satisfactory. A new set of mining regulations—the outcome of a Commission composed of those most interested in gold—were under consideration and revision, and since the close of the year they have been passed by the Legislature. A road has been constructed for some 14 miles from the landing on the bank of the Potaro river towards the placers on the Conawarook, thus shortening the journey and facilitating communication. Another road is in course of construction in the North-West from Arakaka to the Barima, and instructions have been given for a flying survey of a line for a road to connect the Cuyuni with the Puruni diggings.

The expedition to the plateau of the Kaiteur Fall, referred to in my report last year, failed to discover gold in paying quantities.

GRANTS OF LANDS.

The number of grants of land issued for various purposes during the year was much below the average, and are summarised as follows:—

Woodcutting - - 20 grants, including 6,396 acres.
Cultivation - - 22 ,, 2,976 ,,
Purchased outright
for purposes not
known - - 29 ,, ,, 2,542 ,,

On the other hand, 89 grants for collecting ballata were issued, and although the export of this article fell off during the past year, it may be expected from the number of grants taken out that it will be largely increased this year.

LEGISLATION.

The legislation of the year consisted of 13 Ordinances, but, unlike those passed during 1894-5, none call for special comment. The new and revised edition of the Statute Laws of the Colony, prepared by the late Attorney-General, Dr. J. W. Carrington C.M.G., after lying on the table of the Court of Policy for the prescribed period, were brought into operation on the 1st January 1896, and the four volumes, with the few Ordinances since passed, now form the Statute Law of the Colony.

POLITICAL FRANCHISE.

The number of voters on the register fell at the annual registration from 2,479 to 2,416, due probably to the absence of any strong political feeling in the Colony, but the general elections, which will take place in January 1897, will probably have an appreciable effect on the lists to be revised and settled in. December next.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-6.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-6.

EDUCATION.

The Queen's College in Georgetown, the principal Educational Establishment, is a Government Institution, and had 106 students at the close of the year. The course of instruction is the same as that of a public school or first grade grammar school in England. Candidates can be prepared for the matriculation examination of the University of London, which is held in the Colony on the usual notice being given. At the Cambridge Local Examinations held in December 1895, 27 students passed, of whom 10 obtained honours, and 9 marks of special distinction. A scholarship is granted annually on the results of the Cambridge Local Examination, and is of the value of 200l. per annum, tenable for three years, or if the scholar select the medical profession, 150l. a year for five years, with a free passage to England and back in either case.

Other educational endowments include the de Saffon Institution, which provides support and education for "10 children, orphans " or half orphans, natives of the Colony, without distinction of sex "but born in lawful marriage, and who in the case of death of " any of them will be replaced for ever by others," and the Mitchell bequest, which offers two scholarships, tenable at certain schools

for four years, of the value of 15l. a year.

Primary education was carried on by grants-in-aid to denominational schools under the management, in most cases, of ministers of religion, the central authority being the Inspector of Schools. The number of State-aided schools at the close of the year was 203, being a decrease of two for the year. The grants earned amounted to 20,689l. 16s. 3d. The number of children on the books was 28,339, and the cost to the Colony per child examined was 11. 0s. 3\frac{1}{2}d.

There are five scholarships, tenable for four years, awarded

annually from public funds to primary schools.

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

A semi-military armed force of Police established by Ordinance 10 of 1891 and a Militia (Ordinance 12 of 1891) form the defensive forces of the Colony and are under one command. former, including officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, numbered 730, and costs annually 63.000l. The four companies of Militia which have been raised had, with their officers and band, a total strength of 363, and cost, including salaries, band, clothing, capitation and pay, 5,935l.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

The changes which took place during the year were few but important. Governor Sir Charles Lees, K.C.M.G., left the Colony on leave of absence on the 17th October, and some weeks after

arrival in England retired from the Colonial Service on pension. He was succeeded by his Excellency Sir Augustus W. L. Hemming, K.C.M.G., who arrived in the Colony and assumed the administration of the government on the 25th March. In the interval the government had been administered by the Hon. Cavendish Boyle, C.M.G., Government Secretary.

The Attorney-General, Dr. J. W. Carrington, C.M.G., Q.C., received the appointment of Chief Justice of Hong Kong, and his successor, the Hon. H. A. Bovell, LL.D., Q.C., Attorney-General of Barbados, arrived in the Colony on the 25th March.

The Venerable Archdeacon Castell died while absent on leave. The archdeaconry and incumbency of St. Phillip's have been filled by the selection of the Rev. Canon Gwyther.

POPULATION.

The births during the year 1895 numbered 8,177 and the deaths 8,354, but there was an excess of immigration over emigration of 2,577, resulting in a total increase of 2,409 to the population, which is now estimated at 283,278. This figure is probably below the mark, for there is no record of the labourers and others who come to us from the West India Islands.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The slight increase shown last year over previous years has not been maintained, and there has been a considerable reduction all round except in the more serious offences coming before the Supreme Court. 11,633 offences were reported to the police, and the summary convictions in the magistrates' courts fell to 12,425.

In the Supreme Court the convictions in 1894-5 dropped to

the very low number of 151, but last year they rose to 203.

A larger proportion, however, appear to have accepted the alternative of short terms of imprisonment rather than pay the fines imposed. 7,273 were committed to prison, as compared

with 6,562 in the previous year.

The most favourable feature in the criminal statistics is perhaps the absence of juvenile offenders. In 1893-4, 115 were committed In 1894-5 there were no convictions, and during the to prison. past year only one. The number of inmates in the Boys' Industrial School at Onderneeming has fallen considerably, while the Girls' Reformatory in Georgetown contains but two-thirds of the number it housed two years ago.

HOSPITALS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS

There are five public hospitals in the Colony to which admission is free to all who cannot pay The following is a synopsis of their work :-

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-6.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-6.

	Remaining	Admitted		Discharge	1.		Daily
	at beginning of 1895-6.	in 1895–6.	Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	Died.	average in 1895–6
Georgetown -	581	7,474	2,659	3,410	559	874	585
New Amsterdam	119	2,114	449	1,035	443	168	122
Suddie	41	876	132	518	105	116	50
Bartica	10	611	220	311	6	74	22
Morawhanna -	22	670	470	150	5	51	22

In addition to the above 38,334 persons received outdoor treatment from the hospital.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The average daily number in this asylum was 648, and the admissions during the year numbered 185. 100 patients were discharged, of whom 90 had recovered and 10 were relieved; 77 died during the year.

LEPER ASYLUMS.

The asylums at Mahaica and Gorchum contained at the close of the year 359 inmates, of whom 94 had been admitted during the year, 58 patients had died, and 31 had absconded. The diseases took the following forms:—

	-		Males.	Females.	Total.
Anæsthetic		-	163	45	208
Tubercular	-	-	49	19	68
Mixed		-	60	13	73
Total	- 12	-			349

There were nine non-leprous children and one case of yaws.

Amongst the other charitable institutions of the Colony are the almshouse in Georgetown with 609 inmates, the almshouse in New Amsterdam with 241 inmates, the orphan asylum with 77 children, and Catholic Orphanage (supported from private funds) with 44 girls.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

Postal business proper shows an increase in almost all its branches, but the period of depression through which the Colony is passing has left its mark on the telegraph and money order branches. The total number of articles posted rose to 1,949,878, but the telegrams dropped from 88,225 to 87,219, and the local money orders fell short of the previous year by 4,000l., being only 25,929l. Foreign money orders also show a decrease with all countries except Trinidad. Parcel post remained practically stationary.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-6. 125

There are 67 post offices scattered throughout the Colony. Of these 42 are telegraph stations, 36 money order offices, 20 savings banks, and 7 travelling offices.

The telephone accommodation is fully taken up and there are 422 subscribers. The rates charged are 2l. 10s. per annum for private houses and 5l. for business premises within a radius of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Exchange, but a special charge is made for the country districts, where the telephone extends for some 15 miles.

SAVINGS BANKS.

The Savings Bank deposits again bear witness in some degree to the depression which has so generally affected the Colony. The amount at credit of depositors in the Treasury Savings Banks, which are used by the larger depositors, fell from 255,742l. to 233,226l., but it is gratifying to find that the deposits in the Post Office Savings Banks, which the labouring classes avail themselves of, rose from 20,610l. to 25,919l.

The total deposits average 11. per head of the population.

RAILWAYS, CANALS ROADS, AND TELEGRAPHS.

The details of the contract for the extension of the coast line of railway from Mahaica to Blairmont have been settled, and the contract has been signed with the Demerara Railway Company. When built this line will bring the whole country between the points mentioned within reach of the markets of Georgetown or New Amsterdam.

In the interior rapid progress has been made with the railway to connect the Demerara and the Essequebo rivers, and gold miners and timber workers in the Upper Essequebo will shortly have an easier and quicker route to the port of Georgetown.

Roads.

The populated portion of the Colony is intersected by 264 miles of roads, of which 163 miles were maintained from public funds at a cost of 18,221*l.*, and 101 miles by the proprietors of sugar estates, who receive a grant from the Colony of 4s. 2d. a rood towards their upkeep.

BRITISH GUIANA. 1895-6.

Telegraphs.

Twenty-three miles of telegraph wires were added during the year, and 447 miles are now covered by the Government lines. There are in addition 81 miles of cable across the large rivers of the Colony. They are frequently affected by the formation of the river beds and are costly to maintain.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The past year was again dry compared with the heavy wet seasons of the early nineties. Only 68 inches of rain fell, but they were well distributed, and suited the agricultural districts. There were no atmospheric disturbances to record.

GENERAL.

No epidemic visited the Colony, and the health of the people was generally good. There was somewhat less money to be earned by the labouring classes, but the reduced price of provisions greatly compensated for this. The Colony is passing through a critical period, and a cloud still hangs over its staple industry. But the struggle continues, and, if sugar should cease to be the dominant interest, there are not wanting those who see in the gold production of the Colony the dawn of a new and yet more prosperous era.

CHARLES T. Cox, Assistant Government Secretary.

Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, 2nd September 1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 197.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895-6.

(For Report for 1894-5, see No 168.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,

July 1897.



LONDON:

PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1897.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

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No.	Col	ony.				Year.
163	British Bechuanaland	•				1894-5
164	Newfoundland -	-		_	-	1894
165	Gambia			_	-	,,
166	Bermuda					1895
167	Lee vard Islands -					1894
168	British New Guinea	-		-	-	1894-5
169	Zululand	-			-	1895
170	Sierra Leone -	-		-		,,
171	Gibraltar	-		-		29
172	Malta	-			-	,,
173	Barbados	-		-	-	,,
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	-		-	- 1	"
175	Falkland Islands -	1.4			-	,,
176	St. Helena -		-	4	-	,,
177	Bahamas	-		-	-	,,
178	Hong Kong -	-	-		-	,,
179	Windward Islands -		-		-	,,
180	Labuan	-	-	- 1	-	,,
181	Trinidad and Tobago	-			-	,,
182	Seychelles			-	-	,,
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues				·	1894 and 1895
184	British Honduras -	- 1	-15.7	-	-	1895
185	Lagos	-	-	-		,,
186	Basutoland	-		•		1895-6
187	Ceylon	•	14 y	-		1895
188	British Guiana -				-	"
189	Gold Coast	-	-	-	-	"
190	Jamaica	-			-	1895-6
191	Canada	-		-	-	1895
192	Bermuda			-	-	1896
193	Bahamas	•			-	,,
194	Zululand	-		-	-	>>
195	Gambia			-	-	"
196	Malta	-	- -			,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	o. Colony		Subject.
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5

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

(For Report for 1894-5, see No. 168.)

Lieut.-Governor Sir W. McGregor to Lord Lamington.

British New Guinea, MY LORD, January 18, 1897.

I HAVE the honour to submit the usual Annual Report for the year ending with the 30th June 1896, as follows:—

LEGISLATION.

Only Ordinances of a formal character were passed during the

year.

1. Ordinance No. I. of 1895 is the Appropriation Ordinance for 1895-96. This measure was passed to appropriate for the services of the financial year the following sums :-- For ordinary administrative purposes, the sum of 15,000l.; for establishing and maintaining additional Government agencies during the year, the sum of 437l. 18s. 5d.; and for the maintenance of the steamship "Merrie England" for the year ending 31st March, the sum of 7,000l.

2. Ordinance No. I. of 1896, being "The Supplementary

Appropriation Ordinance of 1896, No. 1.

Ordinance No. II. of 1896, being "The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance of 1896, No. 2."

Ordinance No. III. of 1896, being "The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance of 1896, No. 3."

These three Ordinances are alike in character, and simply adjust past expenditure.

Native Regulations.

3. Three regulations were passed by the Native Regulation

Board during the year.

Regulation No. II. of 1895 was enacted for the purpose of preventing water-channels from being choked up with felled timber or other obstructive matter. It is made penal to cut down any standing timber that is within twenty yards of the line of high-water mark, or that is within a like distance of any permanent water, or to put anything in a water-channel that may obstruct the flow of water. Magistrates have power to order any native that has placed any obstructive matter in a water-channel to remove it. The powers given to magistrates are limited to

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1895-6. European magistrates. Obstruction to water-channels was extremely frequent, caused by the making of gardens on the banks of rivers.

4. Regulation No. III. of 1895 is intended to keep roads or general paths open. A European magistrate may, to facilitate cultivation, for example, permit a native to block a portion of a road, if the latter makes a new piece of road that can be used instead of the blocked portion. Persons that place obstructions in roads may be ordered to remove them. Blocking roads without permission is penal.

Natives are constantly clearing fresh land for gardens. A road or path very frequently runs through land thus cleared. Probably most natives would admit that when they block a general path they ought, in accordance with native custom, to open a new way through the forest. But they very often neglect to do so when

5. Regulation No. IV. of 1895. The immediate need for passing this regulation was the preservation of plants from which indiarubber is obtained. Getting indiarubber is quite a new native industry. There was great danger that this trade would rapidly in certain districts become extinct or crippled if the tapping of the trees and plants was not regulated, and the felling of rubber-giving trees prohibited by law. The regulation applies to any plant or tree from which indiarubber or gutta-percha can be got, and which has been brought under the regulation by an order of the Administrator.

It is penal to destroy a protected tree or plant, or to take sap from the same in a way which has been forbidden by a magistrate; or to take sap from a protected tree or plant during a period within which it has been forbidden by a magistrate to take sap from such a tree or plant. The administering of this regulation is confined to European magistrates. This regulation has, where in force, already had a good effect, and is appreciated by natives themselves when once they understand its object.

Administration of Justice.

6. The only addition to the establishment for the administration of justice made during the year was the appointment of an agent for the north-east coast, who is also a warden and a magistrate for native matters.

His Honour F. P. Winter, C.M.G., Chief Judicial Officer, furnishes the following list of cases dealt with by the Courts during the year:—

MATTERS DEALT WITH JUDICIALLY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE 1896.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1895-6.

CENTRAL COURT.

Criminal Jurisdiction.

Appeals.

Court appealed from.	Convict	ion a	opeal	Result of Appeal.				
Court of Petty Sessions, Central District.	Assaultin	ng Co	nsta	ble			Sentence	reduced.
	"		99	-	•	-	,,,	,,
	,,		,,	•/	V- 0	-	"	,,
	Assault		-	-			,,	"
	,,	-	-	-	- 2	-	», «	,,

Criminal Business (Ordinary).

Number of Percommitted for		District from which committed.	Persons committed—how disposed of.
	23	Central District	10 tried.
			4 committals quashed.
			1 discharged.
			8 awaiting trial.
	61	Eastern District	43 tried.
			6 committals quashed.
			8 discharged.
			4 awaiting trial.
	13	Western District	12 tried.
Total -	- 97		1 awaiting trial.

The Court held 15 Criminal Sessions at the places and times and with the results, undermentioned:—

No. of Persons tried.	Offence charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
		Samarai—17th July 1895.	
3	2 murder, 1 larceny	- 2 guilty of manslaughter, 2 guilty of larceny.	3 six months' imprison- ment with hard labour.
2		SAMARAI—16th September 189	5.
5	2 murder, 3 attempt murder.	to 1 guilty of murder, 1 guilty of manslaughter, 3 guilty of attempt to murder.	1 death, 1 two years' imprisonment with hard labour, 3 one years' imprisonment with hard labour.
		BOIANAI—7th October 1895.	
2	2 murder	- 2 guilty of murder :	2 death.

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BI	RITISH
NEW	GUINEA.
1	895-6.

No. of Persons tried.	Offence charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
		NIVANI—2nd November, 189	5.
8	3 murder, 4 selling a corpse, 1 rape	1 guilty of murder, 2 guilty of manslaughter, 4 guilty of selling a corpse, 1 not guilty.	1 death, 6 two months' imprisonment with hard labour.
	S	AMARAI—15th November 1898	5.
1	1 murder	guilty of manslaughter -	12 months' imprison- ment with hard labour.
	PORT MO	RESBY-22nd to 25th November	ber 1895.
2	2 murder	1 guilty of murder, 1 guilty of manslaughter.	1 death, 1 three years' penal servitude.
	PORT M	ORESBY-3rd to 7th December	r 1895.
11	6 murder, 5 attempt to murder.	2 guilty of murder, 1 guilty of manslaughter, 3 not guilty,5 guilty of attempt to murder.	2 death, 1 three years' penal servitude, 5 two years' imprisonment with hard labour.
	DAR	u—16th and 17th December 1	895.
12	3 assault, 1 abusing girl under ten, 3 unlawfully wounding, 5 indecent assault on female.	2 guilty of assault, 1 not guilty, 1 guilty of abusing girl under ten, 3 guilty of unlawfully wounding, 5 guilty of indecent assault on female.	1 three years' penal servitude, 1 two years', 4 eighteen months', 1 twelve months', 1 nine months' 2 six months', and 1 three months', imprisonment, with hard labour.
	SU	DEST ISLAND—22nd May 1896	
1		guilty	
		SAMARAI-8th June 1896.	
4	1 murder, 1 wounding, 1 assaulting constable, 1 attempted suicide.	1 guilty murder, 1 guilty wounding, 1 guilty assaulting constable, I guilty of attempted suicide.	1 death, 2 one years' imprisonment with hard labour, 1 imprisonment until rising of Court.
	Rabi, M	ILNE BAY-11th and 12th Ju	ne 1896.
6	2 murder, 2 attempt to murder, 2 rape	4 not guilty, 2 discharged.	
	SAMAR 5 wounding with intent	2AI—15th, 16th, and 17th Jun 1 guilty of wounding, &c.,	
6	to do grievous bodily harm, 1 abusing girl under twelve.	1 guilty abusing girl under twelve, 1 not guilty, 3 discharged.	with hard labour. 1
		AWAIAMA—22nd June 1896.	
1	1 assault	1 guilty	1 one years' imprisonment with hard labour.
	TA	UPOTA—23rd and 24th June 1	896.
6	4 murder, 1 wounding, 1 assault.	1 guilty murder, 1 guilty wounding, 1 guilty man- slaughter, 1 guilty as- sault, 2 not guilty.	1 death, 3 one years' imprisonment with hard labour.
		SAMARAI—27th June 1896.	
Total $\frac{2}{70}$	2 assisting prisoner to escape.	2 guilty	fined 2l. each.
	With the Committee of t		

Civil Business.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1895-6.

Number of Proceedings.		Nature of Proceedings, &c.
	7	Applications for order to administer by Curator of Intestate Estates
	2	Applications for order under section 34 of Intestacy Act by Curator.
	1	Application for probate.
	-	
Total	10	

COURTS OF PETTY SESSIONS.

Indictable Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Inquiry.
Central District	24	18 murder 5 attempt to murder- 1 arson	23 committed. 1 discharged.
Eastern District -	82	27 murder 5 attempt to murder 19 rape 4 selling a corpse - 9 wounding 4 assault 1 attempted suicide - 2 abusing young girl 2 assisting prisoner to escape. 2 escaping from gaol	61 committed. 21 discharged.
Western District	14	5 seditious language- 2 indecent assault - 1 murder 3 wounding 1 abusing young girl 6 indecent assault - 3 assault	13 committed. 1 dismissed.
	Total 120		

British New Guinea. 1895-6.

Summary Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court. Number of Persons Charged. Nature of		Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
Central District	40	12 assault 3 refusing duty on ship - 5 breach of Prisons Ordinance 1 injuries to property - 3 breach of Constabulary Ordinance. 3 breach of Labour Ordinance 1 careless use of fire 1 indecent exposure	8 convicted, 4 discharged. 3 convicted. 5 convicted. 1 convicted. 3 convicted. 1 convicted. 1 convicted.
Eastern District -	96	10 larceny 1 breach of Arms, &c. Ordinance. 14 breach of Prisons Ordinance 32 larceny 30 assault 2 injuries to property - 1 breach of Customs Act -	4 convicted, 6 discharged. 1 discharged. 6 convicted, 8 discharged. 25 convicted, 7 discharged. 24 convicted, 6 discharged. 1 convicted, 1 discharged. 1 discharged.
Western District -	5	3 breach of Navigation Act - 2 breach of Constabulary Ordinance. 3 drunk and disorderly - 1 breach of Pearl Shell Ordinance. 1 threatening language - 7 breach of Labour Ordinance 1 breach of Labour Ordinance	3 discharged. 2 convicted. 1 convicted, 2 discharged. 1 convicted. 7 convicted.
	Total 141	4 assault	

Civil Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Actions Tried.	Nature of Action.	Result of Action.
Central District	- 2	1 work and labour performed. 1 goods sold	Settled out of court. Settled out of court.
Eastern District	- 11	8 goods sold 1 rent 1 work and labour performed. 1 hire of vessel -	7 verdict for plaintiff, 1 verdict for defendant. Verdict for defendant. Verdict for defendant. Verdict for plaintiff.
Wesrten District	Total $\frac{2}{15}$	2 wages	Verdict for plaintiff.

NATIVE MAGISTRATES' COURTS. Criminal Jurisdiction (Forbidden Acts).

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1895-6.

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
No. 2 (Central) -	118	9 assault	8 convicted, 1 discharged
		62 larceny	56 convicted, 6 discharged
		18 destroying valuable trees -	18 convicted.
		5 extortion	5 convicted.
		5 disobeying magistrate's order.	5 convicted.
		6 spreading lying reports	6 convicted.
		1 escaping from custody -	1 convicted.
		1 breach of roads regulation-	1 convicted.
		6 abduction	6 convicted.
		1 adultery	1 convicted.
		4 threatening language -	3 convicted, 1 discharged
No. 3 (Eastern) -	53	3 spreading lying reports -	3 convicted.
		20 adultery	11 convicted, 9 discharged
		9 sorcery	7 convicted, 2 discharged
		6 assault	6 convicted.
		1 threatening language .	1 convicted.
		11 larceny	10 convicted, 1 discharged
		1 extortion	1 convicted.
		1 destroying valuable trees -	1 convicted.
		1 breach of roads regulation-	1 convicted.
No. 1 (Western) -	13	10 adultery	9 convicted, 1 discharged
		2 larceny	2 convicted.
		1 assault	1 convicted.
Total -	184		

Civil Jurisdiction (Civil Claims).

District of Court.		Number of Actions Tried.	Nature of Claim.	Result of Trial.
No. 2 (Central)	-	Nil.		
No. 3 (Eastern)	-	1	1 ownership of string of shell	String equally divided
No. 1 (Western)	-	Nil.	money.	between the parties.

Total Number of Criminal Proceedings. In Central Court - 97 In Courts of Petty Sessions (exclusive of the 97 cases that went up to Central Court) - 164 In Native Magistrates' Courts - 184 In all Courts - 445 Total Number of Civil Proceedings. In Central Court - 10 In Courts of Petty Sessions - 15 In Native Magistrates' Courts - 15 In Native Magistrates' Courts - 164 In all Courts - 164 In all Courts - 164 In 245

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1895-6. Of the 445 cases that were before the Courts in their criminal jurisdiction, nine resulted in a sentence of capital punishment. In each of these cases the circumstances attending the offence were such as more or less justified in the eyes of the natives the act which constituted the crime. The sentences were all commuted to long sentences of penal servitude. The following is a brief outline of these cases:—

A canoe with a number of natives from Budiai, in Normanby Island, went to Sewa Bay, in the same island. Some time previously certain of the Budiai people had killed two of the natives of a village in Sewa Bay. The relatives of the deceased thought this was a good chance to avenge their dead kinsman. Many of the Sewa Bay people considered that the matter as intertribal feud should be deemed at an end. But the relatives in question disagreed with this view, and, followed by a party of their friends, some of whom appear to have gone simply out of curiosity, they went to where the Budiai canoe was. Two of them succeeded in killing one of the Budiai men. One of the two was soon arrested, tried, and convicted of murder. The other was tried at a later date.

Two men of Boianai, in Goodenough Bay, killed two lads belonging to a hill village called Kwamana. The Kwamana people had for long been at feud with their greatly more powerful coast neighbours. The two culprits had both lost relatives, killed by the Kwamana men. The slaying of the lads was simply an act of retaliation.

Two natives of Gulewa, a village of Misima (St. Aignan) Island, had in 1892 killed a native of another village on the same island called Ariba. Some little time previous to this murder the Ariba people had killed the brother of one of the offenders. Of the latter, one was arrested and tried in 1894; the other was not captured until 1895.

Some natives of Makibiri, in the Astrolabe Range, attacked some natives of Veiburi, a village beneath the range and near the coast, and killed one of the latter. This happened in 1889 or 1890. The culprit was one of the party that made the attack. The homicide was a retaliatory one, the Veiburi people having killed some Makibiri people at some anterior period.

A band of natives of the village of Yarumi, on the eastern slopes of the Astrolabe Range, in 1891 attacked four natives of Veiburi who were camped in "the bush," and killed two of them. Their reason for making this attack appears to have been that they had lately lost one of their own people from natural causes, and they regarded it as their duty to kill some one of their neighbours who had probably procured death by incantation.

Towards the end of the year the second native of Sewa Bay Normanby Island, implicated in the killing of a Budiai man, already referred to, was arrested and tried.

A few years ago a native of a small village near Cape Frere had, by his own pretensions or by common repute, acquired the

reputation of being a great sorcerer. This being so, deaths from sickness that happened in his neighbourhood were put down to his incantations. The people became very frightened of him. Finally the brother of a man who probably was above his neighbours in resolution died, and the death was attributed to the sorcerer. Urged on by others, the brother killed the supposed evil-doer.

The fifteen sittings of the Central Court in its criminal jurisdiction

were held as follows:-

In the Western District - - 1
In the Central District - - 2
In the Eastern District - - 10
In the South-eastern District - - 2

Five cases—three for assaulting constables and one for common assault—were brought before the Central Court on appeal. The sentences were in each instance reduced.

There were thirteen cases awaiting trial before the Central

Court at the end of the year.

Of the 120 persons charged before the Courts of Petty Sessions with indictable offences forty-six were for murder. The nineteen cases of rape, all of which appertain to the Eastern District Court might lead to a wrong impression being formed of the natives in that district. A charge of rape was brought against a company of men who were alleged to have abused some women of another village, but the evidence was not sufficient for even a committal. Two cases of rape reached the Central Court, but both cases completely broke down. The corpse for selling which four men got a mild sentence was negotiated for the sake of the skull, which was wanted as a trophy by the people of an out-of-the-way village. Cases of wounding are as a rule the result of loss of temper. Of the three cases of abusing young girls, only the Western case was a charge brought against a native.

In the cases tried by the Courts of Petty Sessions in their

summary jurisdiction assaults and larcenies predominate.

In the Native Magistrates' Courts it will be seen that in one district one class of offences is more frequently on the calendar than it is in other districts. In the Central District larcenies represent more than half the cases, whilst adultery only figures once. In the Eastern and Western Districts adultery heads the list. Sorcery is confined to the Eastern District this year, so far as proceedings before the Courts are concerned.

The total number of cases brought before the Courts has

been-

1895–96.	1894-95.	1893-94.	1892–93.	1891–92.	1890–91.	1889–90.
471	362	317	138	142	81	71

Although there is a large increase on the previous year, this is mostly due to cases in the Native Magistrates' Courts, and these are largely cases in the Central District. The total number

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1895-6. BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1895-6. of the cases in these Courts last year was eighty, and of these thirty-two belonged to the Central District. This year the cases amount to 184, and 118 are Central District cases. During last year the two Government Agents of the Central District were absent on leave for half the year. The majority of these cases are dealt with by the Government Agents, who are generally travelling through their districts. The civil jurisdiction of the native magistrates was only once formally appealed to in the year. Judging by the order of the Court, the evidence must habeen evenly balanced or very conflicting.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS.

7. The Resident Magistrate for the Western Division notes a steady improvement in the behaviour and general condition of the native population, with less crime and more general punishment of criminals, which he attributes to greater willingness on the part of the people to report cases, and to the activity of the village police. Crimes having their origin in sexual relations predominate. Sorcery continues and will continue to cause trouble, as all the ills by which the western man is visited can be ascribed to it. The year was a dry one in the west, and food was accordingly scarce, but the public health was good.

As was to a large extent the case in the previous year, the very infirm health of the Resident Magistrate made it quite impossible for him during the greater part of the year to visit the different tribes, with the exception of a few of the old settled communities on the coast and near to the station; but he was able to do good work in this direction during the last three months of the year. He then travelled inland from the coast in several directions in the country that lies between the western mouth of the Fly and the Mai Kussa, visiting several new tribes and finding the people friendly and the country thinly peopled, but of greater value than was expected. There still remains much to do, however, to complete our knowledge of the great flat land that lies between the sea and the last 200 miles of the Fly, a task which has hitherto proceeded but slowly.

There is no real settlement by Europeans in the Western Division and there is no advance in trade to be noted there. The Resident Magistrate feels, what indeed it is impossible not to feel, that the Western Division is placed at a most serious industrial disadvantage by its natural fishing-grounds being practically all held by Queensland.

The western station is in good order, and the Magistrate is making praiseworthy and successful efforts in growing food for the establishment and in thus keeping down expense. The principle of self-help he has with good result extended also to the erection and maintenance of buildings. There has always been good reason to be satisfied with the discipline kept up at this

station. A great extension of the Government authority may be expected from this important centre if the health of the Resident Magistrate continues good for the next two or three years.

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The most important work of a permanent character initiated during the year is the building of a stone jetty. It is not easy to obtain stone, and what is got is generally of poor quality; but a jetty is so much wanted and would be of such great use across the mud-covered foreshore, that it is very necessary to proceed with this undertaking, the difficulties in the way notwithstanding.

8. In the Eastern Division the Resident Magistrate attributes the increased number of offences by natives brought before the Court to the extension of the village police system and to the increased readiness of natives to complain to the magistrate. He notes also that natives are shifting down from high lands, to which they had formerly been driven, towards the coast. He concludes that infanticide is practised by the natives at Tubetutu in his district, and that they also procure abortion. Infanticide, probably by neglect, is not improbable there. It has not so far been established that any method of procuring abortion is known to, or is practised by, the natives of this colony, although they, like probably all aboriginal races in the Western Pacific, use harmless herbs to prevent conception. The year was a dry one in the Eastern Division, but unfortunately the meteorological records have been discontinued.

The opening of village cemeteries is proceeding satisfactorily. A considerable amount of labour was expended in road-making, especially along the north shore of Milne Bay, under the initiation of the chief of Mita. The Magistrate notes the extension of gold-mining and the introduction of the rubber industry in the division. On the whole there was a considerable enlargement of trade there. The gaol and the Custom House and bonded warehouse are not in good condition, but otherwise the station is in a satisfactory state. The health of the residents on Samarai has been much improved by the filling in of the dozen acres of mangrove swamp that formerly occupied the centre of that island.

9. The report of the Commandant shows that the constabulary were kept very busy during the year. Divisions of six to eleven men are stationed permanently with each of the Magistrates and Government Agents, except at Samarai, where the men employed are not members of the constabulary. There are, in addition to this, generally from fifteen to twenty men at disposal as a moveable force, which can be employed to strengthen the district divisions or to perform other special service as required. The force, now about four score strong, consists exclusively of natives of this country, and may be regarded as being in a satisfactory condition. At present all enlistment is voluntary, and there is a steady increase in the number of men that seem disposed to make the constabulary their permanent profession. This gives to the body a steadiness and continuity of great value. The movable force

visited each occupied district of the colony during the year, and performed a large amount of very useful work.

One of the most interesting incidents mentioned in the report of the Commandant is where some 250 spearmen assembled at night to attack them on Sewa Harbour. The fact that the natives retired without doing so shows well the utility of always keeping on one's guard. Those tribes will never trust each other again, and will not in future unite to attack the constabulary.

As to the loyalty of the men there can be no doubt. They are recruited from widely different districts—from the Mambare River, Dobu, and Rossel Island in the east to Mawatta in the west. The force is remarkably healthy, and is steadily gaining in prestige, in self-confidence, and in efficiency.

10. The report of the Government Agent for the north-east coast covers the last three quarters of the year, the station having been first established in the beginning of October, 1895. He describes the steps taken to found the station, for which no good site could then be obtained, all the land near the locality where it was thought the station would be most useful being low and subject to occasional flooding. Mr. Green was very successful and industrious in providing suitable temporary accommodation at small expense. Progress in opening up personal communication with the natives he describes as having been slow, as the latter were naturally suspicious and had been hostile; and because the men found the Mambare district very different from any they were acquainted with. The agent also visited the coast tribes as far south as Cape Nelson, meeting with no unfriendly demonstration, but finding what others have experienced on this coastthat the pilfering propensity of the native is highly developed. Mr. Green is inclined to think that certain tribes that attacked the lower villages on the Mambare came from German territory. This is quite possible, but on the whole the probability is that they came from the Ikore River, which is probably all in British territory except a few miles near the mouth. But this cannot be determined until time is found to cut a path on this side of the boundary till it strikes the Ikore, when careful astronomical observations will have to be made to arrive at an approximate boundary, the tribes clearly inside of which will then be duly taken in hand.

The agent assisted the few miners that visited the district with whatever assistance was in his power. These numbered eight during the first four months of Mr. Green's occupancy, and the same number were in the district the last three months of the year with a large number of native carriers from the lower coast tribes, who frequently deserted and were thievish.

From October to May the Mambare was liable to frequent and sudden floods, which caused much trouble at the station. The Government Agent regrets the complete absence of missionary work in his district, and points out that progress is being made in establishing English as the language of the station.

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11. The Government Agent for the Mekeo district notes the gradual settlement of the tribes to quiet habits. Some new tribes visited near the Korio (Yule Range) were of the Mekeo type, and friendly; their country very mountainous and not rich. A few new tribes were also visited in the Gulf, and friendly relations were established with them. About a dozen traders are engaged in the district making copra, and collecting sandalwood, rubber, and gum. There is no serious planting for commercial purposes. Good progress was made in opening and improving roads in the Mekeo district. Serious crime is greatly diminished, but petty offences are much more frequently brought before the magistrate. Chief and village constables require to be carefully watched to prevent extortion by them. Larceny is the most common petty offence.

The defective school attendance is noted, as is also the neglect

of the English language in the schools of the district.

12. The Government Agent of the Rigo district points out that there are still many tribes near the main range not yet brought into contact with Europeans, but living in their original condition. Amongst these superstition is the root of most crimes that are committed. The Kokila and Taboru tribes, and the Rupi, Galirupu, and Kamiti tribes have become settled under Government authority. The coast tribes are manifesting a strong desire for European clothes, tools, &c. The first cocoanuts planted under the native regulation are now beginning to bear. The rubber industry was keenly prosecuted during the year.

Several small blocks of land taken up for planting purposes are

now being cultivated.

Four new tribes and twenty-three new villages were visited during the year.

Murder has entirely ceased in the district, and petty offences

are more generally punished than formerly.

Sixty-two prisoners were received in the district gaol, sentenced to short terms of imprisonment under the native regulations.

13. The Resident Magistrate of the Central Division points out that trading voyages for sago were, in consequence of scarcity of food, undertaken by most of the coast villages, and with successful results. He mentions that in regulating burials during a visit to the gulf, he and Mr. Kowald caused the natives to exhume over 200 bodies. The magistrate refers to a considerable amount of work performed in the division, much of which was of a progressive and ordinary character.

14. The head gaoler's report seems to have been miscarried by post, and is not given here. The prisoners did a considerable amount of work during the year, filling in foreshore, clearing, and planting cocoanuts. For the first time there was an outbreak of the disease beri-turi in the gaol at Port Moresby, which caused no fewer than 9 deaths. The malady was introduced by some prisoners from Cloudy Bay. Towards the end of the year some 50 prisoners were lent to the gold-mining company starting

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crushing operations on Sudest Island. They have been principally employed in making a road from the coast to the mine. They are employed on the basis that the company pays all expenses, including those of supervision, and a small rate a day for each prisoner at work.

VISITS OF INSPECTION.

15. The first administrative inspection made during the year was in the district of Rigo, early in July. Certain points were fixed by astronomical observation to facilitate the filling up of the map of the district. Some 5,000 to 6,000 cocoanut trees were growing well at the station, and the condition of both constabulary and prisoners was satisfactory. The station and district had suffered much from the absence on leave of Mr. English, the Government Agent, but matters were again assuming their normal aspect. It was found that Mr. English was very successful in training and educating the village police, although the latter still make frequent mistakes. Peaceful and regular habits were seen to be firmly established over a large area, and some good main roads had been cleared. On the other hand, the planting of cocoanuts had not been well persevered in, and those planted had been generally neglected. In short, the Government Agent and the natives generally were not giving so much attention to the regulation for planting and weeding cocoanuts as that important subject deserves. The ordinary excuse was that the natives could not obtain nuts to plant, but that was no reason why they should neglect those they had already planted out. The station will soon be able to pay for native labour in cocoanuts grown there, which will be a great advantage to all concerned, to say nothing of the encouragement to be derived from the very successful example of their cultivation at the Government Station.

The rubber industry was being started in the district.

On a visit to Wabamari, in the Eastern Division, in July, a returned good-conduct prisoner was installed as village policeman. He has done good service since. A native accused of murder, and arrested at Geagea, Port Glasgow, by the village policeman of Magula, was brought on board the steamer at the same time for transmission to Samarai.

16. In the beginning of August all was found quiet and progressive at Dobu. On the Sunday there was an attentive congregation of about 350 people in the principal church. The planting of food was being industriously attended to by the people of Dobu, but, apparently, principally on the large island of Duau. The greater portion of the adults were there spending the working days of the week in their gardens at Duau, but they all came to Dobu (some of them a distance of several miles) on Saturday evening to attend church on Sunday. On Sunday evening, or Monday morning, they returned to their work in the gardens. That the mission is able to induce the natives to do this, is a convincing proof of the singular success that has attended their

labours in this Colony. The head of the Wesleyan Mission, the Reverend W. Bromilow, practises himself the laborious round New Guinea. of duties he insists on exacting from his teachers; after conducting service in the principal church he visited others, and preached in the course of the day to about 1,500 natives.

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A number of village cemeteries were laid off on Dobu and

Fergusson Islands.

As the native tribes that live on the southern slopes of Mount Kilkerran were said to be still hostile both to the Government and to the peaceful tribes between the mountain and the sea, a visit in force was made to them. They were taken by surprise, as they had thought we could not ascend to their villages. Though at first defiant, they soon submitted and surrendered the murderer through whom all the trouble had arisen. A large area of good land was found to exist between Mount Kilkerran and Dawson Straits, sufficient, if utilised, to relieve the congested district of

Fergusson, facing Dobu.

In the end of July the centre of the island of Fergusson was examined by a journey across it from Hughes Bay to Seymour Bay. At several villages the people were timid, and at certain places they could not be induced for some time to return to their houses, but none were in any way unfriendly. At only one place were any armed men met with, and that was near the centre of the island, where they had noticed the approach of our party without knowing who we were. Skull trophies had disappeared in the villages near the coast, but they still remained exposed in certain others towards the centre of the island. Contrary to what had been expected, no swamp land was traversed in the interior. It is not thickly inhabited, though villages are dotted over the whole island up to an altitude of 2,000 feet on the large mountains. The different tribes seem to be industrious, making very large food garders, but building rather inferior houses.

What seemed to be most wanted in the district of Duau, Dobu, and Fergusson was the introduction of some industry on which the natives could be profitably employed on a larger scale than is the case at present. Some village policemen were appointed on the south-east end of Duau. There the tribes near the coast are peaceful and industrious, but it was reported that several crimes had been committed in the mountains and had not, so far, been

dealt with by the magistrate.

17. In the earlier part of August, the Commandant, with a number of men of the constabulary, was sent to visit the villages on Murawawa, a bight in Goodenough Bay. This was rendered urgent by a report kindly furnished by the Reverend Copland King, head of the Anglican Mission in this Colony. From ages immemorial those tribes had been accustomed to murder their neighbours from time to time, and they remained true to their old habits in spite of repeated and prolonged visits from the magistrate and constabulary, and, uninfluenced by the proximity, and latterly by the presence among themselves, of the mission workers,

they had lately committed two apparently unprovoked murders. The Commandant found that the houses were empty when he arrived in the bay. He succeeded in inducing many of the owners to return home, a work in which he was assisted by the two resident teachers, but the murderers had fled to certain distant hill tribes for refuge.

The first step taken on the arrival of the main party was to pay a visit to the hill tribe of Kwamana, members of which had been the last victims of the Murawawa tribes. The Kwamana, not knowing the errand or quality of their visitors, prepared themselves skilfully to repel an attack; but they soon understood the wishes of the Government and manifested their desire for peace

and protection.

The Commandant was sent to effect the settlement of the mountain tribe Budi, reconciling them with the Dogura tribe of Murawawa. Then the tribes west of the Murawawa were reassured and settled; but the Resident Magistrate failed to induce the chief of Paiwa to come to Kaiboda. The actual murderers belonged to the villages of Kaiboda and Boianai. Without any previous hint having been given, all the arms in their houses were suddenly collected and burned in the village squares.

As it was found that the rich gardens of these two tribes depended wholly on an elaborate system of irrigation, it was threatened that the water would be cut off, that the food would be eaten up, and their cocoanuts would be used up if they did not surrender the two murderers. A party of the inhabitants, accompanied by two or three constables, set out for the inland villages, where the murderers were hiding, and eventually they were handed over, tried, and convicted before the Central

Court.

A charge made against some of the constabulary of having criminally assaulted some women of Boianai was promptly inquired into by the magistrate, and found to be groundless.

A call was made at the well-settled village of Awaiana, in Chad's Bay. It was with this tribe that the Government first came into collision, since which they have remained loyal, the chief being a village policeman. They had a coloured teacher of the Anglican Mission among them, but he was working under serious disadvantages and without very promising results. Matters were found to be quite satisfactory at Taupota. There was a mission teacher there under circumstances very similar to those of his colleague at Awaiama. On our stopping at Paiwa, the rural constable there reported the murder of four men of his tribe by a mountain sept. This latter was visited by the Commandant with a large force; the natives attacked them and were beaten off, while some of those accused of murder were arrested.

18. On proceeding to an inspection of the lower part of the Mambare river on the 19th August it was learned that Mr. George

Clark, leader of a gold-prospecting party on the Mambare, had been killed in a treacherous and unprovoked attack made by the natives. The party reached the river on the 1st July, and in eight or nine days passed the highest villages on the low-lying reaches of the river. The natives were helping them up the river, and had seen considerable trade stores of the travellers; and the fact that the women and children had been sent away. while spears and clubs had become much more numerous, was at the time hardly noticed by the Europeans. Taking advantage of a favourable opportunity, the natives cut the towing-rope of the boat in which was Mr. Clark alone, with nearly all the rifles of the party. They threw a shower of spears on him, and he disappeared, apparently mortally wounded, in a deep pool. The natives secured most of the trace and made off. The party when returning down the river met a second lot of prospectors; they joined forces, ascended the river, and illegally set about inflicting punishment after their own fashion by breaking canoes, shooting pigs, and burning houses. There can hardly be any doubt that in descending the river after the first attack they would have to defend themselves from hostile natives, but the action of the miners became ultimately aggressive. Mr. Clark bore an excellent character. If he erred at all in dealing with natives it seems to have been on the side of over-indulgence towards them. The chief of the first village, Taututu, was friendly and visited us on the morning of the 20th, but his village and that next beyond it were practically deserted. The next two or three villages, judging from the friendly demeanour of the people, had not been directly concerned in the murder of Mr. Clark. At the village of Apochi, where there was a large number of natives preparing a feast, there was in the village square a shovel that had belonged to the miners. On seeing that it was noticed, the natives all fled to the bush. A rupture was avoided with the tribes of the upper district till better information should be obtained. They came to the station to trade, but were suspicious. While descending the river one could observe that in all the upper villages new arms were being got ready, and preparations were going on for an expected struggle. At the village of Eruatutu two men were fired upon when in the act of trying to throw their spears on the party.

On the 23rd September the river was again ascended, this time with a strong force, about a score of men of the constabulary headed by the commandant and the magistrate. No proceedings hostile to the natives were undertaken before the party reached the junction of the Tamata with the Mamba, where a permanent camp was formed. A small party continued to travel towards the interior for six days after leaving the camp, and cut a path for about thirty miles along the right bank of the river, on the Ajula Kujula mountain. All was deep forest, uninhabited, with some prospect of gold. The party left at the camp encouraged visits from natives until the latter began to think themselves

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masters of the situation, and assumed a threatening and defiant demeanour. At a suitable moment the constabulary rushed on them and arrested the number they had been instructed to secure—six strong young men. The six prisoners were brought to Samarai. A number of prospectors followed the party up the river. Mr. Green was left at the camp at the Tamata junction, as Government Agent, with suitable equipment and ten men of the constabulary.

A hurried visit was made to the Mambare on the 22nd October to learn the state of matters there. It appeared that all was satisfactory. At the same time a tribe was visited on the Dubila Creek. They had made some threatening demonstrations towards certain miners and to people belonging to the "Merrie England."

They preserved a friendly attitude when found at home.

19. At the end of August an inspection of the River Musa was entered upon, over 30 miles of which had previously been examined. The few people living in the first two small villages, some score of miles from the sea, fled on our approach, but communications were opened with all other tribes during the ascent, and with the lower villages on the return journey. The ascent, and with the lower villages on the return journey. Baruga tribe was timid but friendly; they were poor and not well prepared for defence; they had no tree-houses. In heavy floods all their land, and all between that and the sea, would be flooded. At the considerable village of Gewaduru, shallows commence which the launch could not pass without some flood in the river. Here the people were from the first friendly. They had a dozen excellent tree-houses, the best arranged and the best for defence hitherto noticed in the Colony. They had evidently heard of Europeans from the natives of Collingwood Bay. Beyond Gewaduru progress was generally effected by dragging the boat by the tow-rope. The village of Gudari was reached on There also the people were friendly. They had three tree-houses and a palisade round the village. Thin stone adzes and some of their clubs were of jade. Up to this point the river bed lay entirely in flat alluvial country, much of which would be flooded occasionally. The same day the boat entered the first low hills of the Didina Range. Half-a-dozen miners who accompanied us in the steamer's dinghy did not go further than these When the boat could be taken no higher up the river on account of rapids, a camp was formed, nearly four score miles from the sea, and the river was followed up on foot for six days. It was extremely difficult to travel by the river bed on account of the numerous impassable cliffs projecting into it. On the east side of the river the hills, generally forest-clad, rise to about 3,000 On the west they are lower and more grassy. It was found that there were natives waiting for the party on its arrival across the hills. On emerging from these one finds oneself in front of the confluence of the Moni and the Adaua, the former from the west, the latter from the east and south-east; united they form the Musa. The country lying south of the junction forms a great plain 12 or 20 miles broad, and of greater but uncertain length,

especially towards the west. It is very lightly wooded, and is slightly undulating. Many villages could be seen on it. Our NEW GUINEA. camp was visited by natives from several parts of the great valley, all of whem were very friendly and unarmed. They are of a dark-brown colour, are fairly robust, and apparently are numerous. They did not know tobacco. The return journey from the junction of the Adaua and Moni to the boat camp occupied less than a day and a-half. The miners did not find any gold in the Didina Range. Gudari and Gewaduru were friendly as we decended the Musa, and so were all the other tribes, including the lowest villages of all. On the 18th September we were camped on the river bank not far from the foot of Mount Victory. grey dawn next morning a force of about 300 men, in twentyeight large war canoes, all painted and feathered as if for war, went up the river past us. The steamer was met the same day at the mouth of the Musa, and early next morning a strong party. comprising a score of the constabulary, started at an early hour after the invaders, and came up with them early in the afternoon,

The canoes were all passed in the river by the steam launch, and were driven down the stream. They were all captured without a single exception; every canoe they had brought up the river, and a number of smaller working canoes which they must have taken from the natives on the Mambare. They had already caught at least some ten or twelve unfortunate natives, the bodies of many being cut up, divided out, and partly cooked. probably a good deal eaten. In a conflict between a party of the cannibals and a few men of the constabulary, two or three natives were shot dead and some were wounded. One of the latter was taken on board the steamer, and was subsequently conducted back to his tribe, the Mapuya, on Mount Trafalgar. It was clear that the greater part of the men, if not indeed all of them, that took part part in that expedition were from the Trafalgar Bay

and Collingwood Bay tribes.

20. About the middle of October the Kumusi river was inspected to the highest point accessible by the small steam launch. There was some difficulty then in crossing the bar at the mouth of this river. There was no native occupation of any kind on the Kumusi within two dozen miles of the sea. At this distance about a score of natives were making sago. They were friendly. A mile or two further on there was a larger party, containing about three score fighting men, besides many women and children They were friendly, but timid and nervous. They seemed to be emigrants, and about to settle down there, as they had all their household goods with them on canoes. Those that appeared armed were made to put their weapons aside. Above that point many natives were met with; generally they appeared armed, the warrior being frequently followed by a woman carrying part of his panoply, or ready to relieve him of his arms when he was induced to dispense with them. The natives of the villages on the right bank, on the flat alluvial plateau nearest to the hills, did not seem to be on very good terms with those on the left bank.

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A large tribe lives near the foot of the first hills on the left bank, and many of those people came to our camp there. were friendly, but they are quite untrustworthy. All were taught to not approach the boat or camp with weapons in their hands. If they do so with future parties this will be an indication that mischief is contemplated.

The small launch ascended about 50 miles by the river course from the sea to the foot of high hills. No villages were visible thence; but a "bush" tribe visited the camp from the right bank, and did some friendly trading. A number of natives also appeared on the left bank, and brought us food for sale. banks and shingle in the river had all the appearance of auriferous deposits, but it was difficult to find the smallest "colour" of gold.

All the natives seen in descending the river made friendly

demonstrations.

21. An inspection of the Louisiade district was made in November. It was not found that agriculture or planting of any kind was making progress at Panaietti, which was otherwise in a satisfactory condition. The village policemen seemed to be useful.

The prison of Nivani was clean, but discipline had become lax. The islands of Ware and Murua were put under the jurisdiction of the Louisiade Division, as being more accessible to that magistrate.

There were not more than half a score of European miners on Sudest, the search for gold on that island having passed

chiefly into the hands of the natives.

There was some prospect that a company for quartz-crushing would commence operations there.

On Misima there were about eighteen miners. All these islands

were apparently quiet and peaceful.

There were some twenty to thirty European miners on Murua. all doing fairly well, and there was good reason to think that goldmining would be prosecuted there for some time. The island was

declared a gold-field.

At Kiriwina the condition of affairs was unsatisfactory, the natives having become threatening and troublesome to the mission and to traders, and quarrelsome among themselves. The conduct of the pearl traders had been worse even than that of the natives in some respects.

The most arrogant and aggressive tribe was visited and some of their men arrested. A patrol was sent through the island, and all arms that could be seen were taken and destroyed.

practically put a stop to carrying arms.

The Reverend Mr. Fellowes was obtaining some footing in spite of the machination and opposition of the traders, and undeterred

by the hostile menaces or indifference of certain natives.

22. As the Government Agent of the Rigo district had been attacked by the natives of Kokila, in the inland part of his jurisdiction, and as the attack had resulted in two or three of his carriers being wounded, one severely, and in the loss of much of his baggage, it was necessary to make a visit of inspection to the neighbourhood of the hostile tribes. The Government Agent NEW GUINEA. had been making an extended tour in his district for the purpose of bringing new inland tribes under control, and he had with him a force that could use thirteen guns, a strong party where the natives employ only spears. The reports current among the tribes of the Rigo district were that all those of the interior were combining to offer a determined resistance to the Government.

All the tribes up to and on Mount Duamaga (Mount Douglas)

were friendly.

The chief of Kware arrived to inform us that the three villages of Dokura had joined the eight of Kokila to fight the Government. The march was continued beyond Duamaga in fighting order. When we were camped at Buredabu (Margaret river) the chief of Dokura was induced to visit us, and finally his tribes brought in and surrendered the man that had badly wounded one of the Government Agent's carriers on the former expedition. The chief of Mara came into camp and said that Kokila had already been so severely punished that they would not again face the constabulary. All their villages were found nearly deserted, but a few men were captured, and their district was patrolled in several directions without any opposition presenting itself. The neighbourhood was pacified without further bloodshed.

There was good opportunity on this expedition of learning the excellence of the sketch map of the district prepared by Mr. Cuthbertson on his expedition to Mount Obree, a wonder of accuracy when one bears in mind in what a short space of time it was composed. The district is populous, the people active and

industrious.

23. In an inspection of the Western Division, begun about the middle of December, the villages first touched at were those at the mouth of the Bailala river. A trader had established himself there to deal in copra. No attempt whatever had been made by the mission there to begin to teach English. The natives seemed to be quiet, but they reported certain breaches of the peace in some inland villages. The Western Division was suffering from a severe drought, which had much impaired the condition of the station. Discipline had been well maintained over police and prisoners, but the serious ill-health of the Resident Magistrate had necessarily greatly interfered with the work of the district. No progress was being made in European settlement. but Daru is a useful and convenient place of call, and of rest and shelter for large numbers of fishing boats. The impression conveyed to one by an inspection of the important village of Turituri was that the people were steadily advancing in the adoption of certain European ways, in hiring themselves out as labourers, and in wearing calico, &c., but were at the same time letting their houses, formerly bad, become much worse. tribe is perfectly law-abiding, but has no mission teacher. Of the neighbouring community of Mawatta similar remarks may be

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made; they possess a teacher, but he was making no progress whatever, his school being practically unattended. In the end of December the tribes on the Binaturi river were visited as far as Jibu. Halts were made in certain small villages, the inhabitants of which were generally found wearing European clothes. All were very friendly. For several miles the country consisted of deep alluvial land, much of which is wet and swampy in rainy weather. At many places there are considerable groves of cocoanut trees. Beyond this area of flat land there begins a succession of low, rolling, grassy ridges, which seem to give character to a large area inland in that direction. It was thought that the Binaturi could be ascended by boat for probably 20 to 30 miles, and Mr. Hely has since taken the whaleboat to near Jibu.

To proceed inland from Mawatta by land it was necessary to obtain carriers from Masingara, as the men of Mawatta, accustomed, they say, to earn 21. a month, demand exorbitant pay for carrying. Masingara has no mission teacher, but is well-governed by an intelligent chief and two village policemen. From Masingara the party, headed by the chiefs of Mawatta, Masingara, and Badu, went as far inland as the village of Somlos. The country between Masingara and Somlos consists principally of low undulating grassy ridges, with eucalyptus trees, crossed here and there by small streamlets, along which there grow the ordinary forest trees of the country. Somlos was friendly, and its people are now frequent visitors to the coast. The strong village of Mirapo was put on friendly terms with Mawatta and Masingara, places which they have subsequently visited several times. appearance of the Badu tribes showed clearly that they had made great progress. They had built good houses, and a large number wore European clothes. They are quite peaceful, but there is an outstanding dispute between them and Mawatta with reference to some cocoanut groves planted by the fathers or grandfather of the Badu people before the arrival of the Mawatta tribe in that part of the country. The Resident Magistrate decided the matter in favour of Badu, but there may still be trouble over this question of ownership. It was found that at least the stretch of country extending from Badu to Somlos rests on a bottom of old coral rock.

The London Missionary teacher stationed at Boigu had collected a considerable number of people from New Guinea to that undesirable residence on the pretence of educating them there. The teacher did not trouble himself in the matter, but the New Guinea natives were evidently of great use in growing food for his countrymen, and in furnishing them with wives. Their condition was miserable.

24. No natives were observed on the coast between the Wassi Kussa and the Morehead river. It appeared that the tribes on the Morehead river had been attacked and dispersed by the Tugeri, their villages having been burned down and many people killed. They were living in small camps under poor shelter at

different places in the forest, but at some distance from the river, so as to be concealed from travellers. They were friendly, and NEW GUINEA. anxious that we should proceed at once against the Tugeri tribes. This, of course, was impossible, as they live many miles beyond our boundary; but it was decided that the steam launch and a strong body of constabulary should remain in the west until renewed attempts could be made to meet the marauders at the season at which they were nearly sure to carry out the next invasion of this territory.

The latter half of January and the first part of February were given to an inspection that extended from Daru to Orokolo.

The people of Parama had greatly improved their houses. They have a very efficient local police establishment. They try to live and dress like Europeans. They professed to regret the long-continued absence from duty of their teacher, so that there was no school for the children. Their coast line seems to be sinking, and it will probably soon become uninhabitable if there is no speedy change in the sandbanks and currents near the island.

The natives of Gasiri had left the island of Parama, and were building on a low confined site at the mouth of the Wiraraturi Creek on the mainland, a move of questionable advantage. They have a teacher, but education in the school stagnates beyond the alphabet. They are quiet and peaceful, and their police manage their own internal affairs. The smaller and less important village of Siu was found to be in a satisfactory condition. This community is not of sufficient magnitude to have a policeman or a teacher.

The large village of Sumai was found to be one of the most advanced in the colony. The community is large enough to have four village policemen and two chiefs. Being very numerous they were formerly proportionately aggressive, and behaved badly to weak tribes in that part of the country. Now they are active in establishing and enforcing peace among other communities. Many young men of this tribe engage as labourers, and perhaps the majority wear European clothes. They have a considerable trade in sago. This large and progressive tribe, the least nomadic of the great tribes of the estuary, has no teacher.

Kubira, formerly much behind its neighbours of Iasa and Sumai, seemed to have advanced rapidly of late. They are now a wellsettled orderly community.

At Iasa the chiefs and police were heard and consulted in regard to a reported assault by the Wabuda people on the police and others from Wiorubi. The chiefs of Iasa are intelligent and the police are very efficient. Many of their young men hire themselves to employers, and the community carries on a considerable trade in sago, which extends as far as Murray and Darnley Islands. The tribe of Saguana has to a large extent adapted European ideas. They are a well-settled community, but

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on this occasion they were loud and persistent in their complaints against their teacher, the only one stationed on that, the principal, mouth of the Fly. The charges were dealt with by the magistrate, when it was proved that the teacher had acted foolishly and arbitrarily. After settlement of the dispute and payment of compensation for the damage done there would be no permanent dislike to the teacher, but of course he would be less respected for some time.

A visit to Ipisia was the occasion of impassioned complaints against the teacher associated with that tribe. He and the complainants could not then be brought face to face, but there could hardly be any doubt that his conduct had been as reprehensible as that of his colleague at Saguana. Unfortunately these two men were the only representatives of the mission in connexion with the Fly river. Their extravagances proceeded

from want of supervision.

In every other respect the condition of Ipisia was satisfactory.

On arrival at Wabuda Island it was ascertained that all the people had left their houses and fled to the swamps. villagers of Gesoa showed they had nothing to do with the attack on the Wiorubi people, who had gone to Wabuda to trade when they were assaulted. The chief of the offending tribe came in on the second day. They delivered up the ringleader, but two others could not then be found, but were subsequently surrendered. The fear of punishment restrained a large number of people from participating in the assault on the Wiorubi men, and induced them to aid the latter to get away from their assailants.

The tribe next called upon was that of Maipani. No great advance has been made by this people, the chief of whom is one of the most backward men of the sept. They were still on unfriendly terms with Sisiamia and with the Gama tribes, though

not at actual war with either of them.

It was noticed in proceeding along the coast from the Fly to the Purari that the sea had during the previous two years seriously encroached on the shore; at many places a third to half a mile of land had quite disappeared. This was probably owing to an unusually strong and protracted south-east monsoon. The change was effected in such a short time that subsidence could hardly have had much to do with it.

As the weather was favourable for travelling along the coast no village was stopped at between Maipani and Orokolo. In the latter district were two or three traders making copra. Orokolo has some village policemen, but they are so far removed from any European control that they are not so efficient there as they are in many other places. Nothing required special attention at There they have at least one excellent teacher.

On the 2nd February a call was made at Apiope, on the Aivei. Matters there were also in a satisfactory condition, but they confirmed the report heard at Orokolo, that the Koriki had murdered some of the Maipua people. The latter were quiet and friendly, but in deep mourning. All the tribes of the Purari delta were in a troubled and agitated condition, chiefly on account of the prestige earned by the Koriki through this massacre of New Guinea. people that had visited them as friends to sell clay pots. was made to their villages, on which the war cry was immediately raised; but before the warriors could reach the bank of the river they were fired upon and driven off. Nothing beyond destroying the prestige of the tribe could be effected then. The Kaimare villagers, though nervous on account of the Koriki occurrences, were friendly. No tribe on the Purari delta appeared in arms, with the sole exception of the Koriki men.

A friendly reception was accorded to the party by all the tribes at Risk Point with the exception of the large village of Terebo. There the men drew themselves up on the bank, armed to the teeth. No collision took place then, but a future misunderstanding with that tribe, the only one that appeared in arms, is not

improbable.

The formerly very populous villages on the Gawai seemed to have lost a large part of their population, and with their strength their arrogance had disappeared. They were timid and difficult to approach.

The fragmentary tribes of the lower Bamu were very friendly. They have no permanent villages, and seemed to be afraid to

build any on account of Sisiamia.

On the site of the former great village of Sisiamia there was not even a hut standing. It seemed that the Matapaia tribe, on the Waviturai branch of the Bamu, had been driven from their home by Sisiamia. They were friendly, but poor, and in wretched The Sisiamia men were found establishing a new circumstances. village a few miles below the old one. They were duly warned to let their neighbours alone in future.

The tribes on the northern half of the Fly estuary appeared all quiet, and to be making decided progress in following up the Kiwai

civilisation.

25. On a visit to Samarai in the end of March it was found that the prison there was overcrowded; otherwise the condition of the station was satisfactory. At the London Missionary Society's station at Kwato it was observed that excellent work had been Foreshore had been reclaimed, comfortable houses for the students had been built, and four native students were leaving the station to begin the labours of village teachers. The teaching of

English was being pushed by the Rev. C. W. Abel.

On the 29th of March the village of Taututu, the lowest on the Mambare river was found to be practically deserted, the inhabitants having been driven out by the tribes of Anjiga and Gouwo. It is not yet clear whether the latter are British or German subjects. The tribes between Taututu and the Government Station were not anywhere unfriendly, although they were somewhat nervous and timid. They did not carry weapons. In the bay at the mouth of the Mambare river a station was fixed a mile and a-half on the south side of the boundary, and a commencement was made to cut a line on a true westerly bearing in order to ascertain

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what tribes on the Ikore are subject to British jurisdiction. The natives met with were friendly, but they are great thieves and probably treacherous. Matters were quiet in and near Collingwood Bay, but progress is slow there, as contact with Europeans is rare in that district. The principal chief in Milne Bay received a visit, the first object of which was to encourage him in a great task of road-making carried out by the natives under his supervision. All the tribes of that populous district were living peaceably and working up a considerable trade in copra, &c.

At Tubitubi matters were quiet, progressive, and satisfactory but the Rev. Mr. Field reported that the birth-rate was

unprecedentedly low and infant mortality excessively high.

The lessee of the Conflict Group had made considerable progress in planting cocoanuts, and was producing sponges of an encouraging appearance. The island to be reserved in this group for public purposes has not yet been definitely selected.

The condition of the Government Station at Nivani was fairly satisfactory, but the advances made in planting and in house-

building were hardly up to the average of other stations.

Several days were spent amongst the tribes on the north side of Misima. They were formerly quarrelsome, very thievish, and much addicted to murder. The latter crime has been effectually suppressed, and they have much improved in other respects. They have now several fairly good village policemen in their communities.

Nothing of any serious consequence was reported at the various places called at on the coast between Mairu and Port Moresby.

26. On the 11th May the island of Boigu was reached on a journey undertaken with the express object of meeting the so-called Tugeri tribes that raid this colony from Dutch territory. From Boigu the smoke of the hunting parties of the invaders was seen in the district of the Wassi Kussa. Next day a letachment of some dozen Tugeri canoes was encountered in the channel between New Guinea and the Talbot Islands. Those the remained in the channel were immediately attacked; several ensualties were inflicted on them; their canoes with the whole of their food and camp gear were all captured, and their owners fled for refuge into the mangrove islands of the Talbot Group, without having been able to use their bows and arrows with any effect. No prisoners were carried away, although they were much desired. The possibility of securing prisoners could not be taken advantage of because the fugitives were already outside the jurisdiction of this colony, and for the further reason that there was no accommodation for them in the boats, while the task of meeting and defeating the main body was still unaccomplished. It was therefore necessary to remain satisfied for the moment with the complete rout inflicted in this division. Meanwhile a large number of canoes had assembled at the mouth of the Wassi Kussa, apparently with the object of examining the position. Four of them started westward along the New Guinea shore as if to return home. These were intercepted by a boat,

the launch being aground, and their crews returned overland to the main body on the Wassi Kussa, leaving their canoes, which were broken up. The fire of the Lee-Metford rifles caused the canoes at the mouth of the Wassi Kussa to retire up that channel for safety. A number of canoes that were about the west end of the Talbot Islands escaped westward and were pursued with no success for several miles past the Miabuta Point. Next day the main camp of the Tugeri, situated on the western bank of the Wassi Kussa, about three miles from its mouth, was rushed and captured in splendid style by twenty men of the constabulary, who were supported by only four Europeans.

captured in splendid style by twenty men of the constabulary, who were supported by only four Europeans.

The whole of the fifty war canoes belonging to the main body were captured, with all their camp gear and food, as well as the greater part of their arms, which they threw away in the rout. They left three dead in the camp, including their leader. In the face of the severe loss inflicted on these marauding tribes, it is very unlikely that they will ever return to the Wassi Kussa. About half of all the canoes captured were distributed among the heads of New Guinea families then resident at Boigu. The south-east wind set in with great violence during these operations, so that it

was not possible to proceed along the coast to further harass the Tugeri on their long and arduous journey homewards without food, arms, clothes, or shelter. So far as punishment was concerned, it was thought to be already sufficiently severe.

27. It will be remembered that, to enable operations to be carried out with greater freedom and precision in dealing with these tribes, a suitable natural boundary was agreed on by Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the Queen of the Netherlands. Some effort seems to have been made by the Dutch authorities to settle these tribes, but their endeavours do not appear to have been renewed after they attacked the magistrate posted among them and made his removal necessary. It was then seen that on this side the only course that would afford relief effectively would be to raise the native constabulary of this colony to the level of being able to inflict a signal defeat on the Tugeri marauders while executing a raid in this possession. This object has been kept steadily in view. It was thought that the force was in a condition to meet the invading tribes, and when the men were brought face to face with the intruders it was easy to see that they did not give a thought to the disparity in numbers, and were quite unmindful of the great fame of the Tugeri as accomplished bowmen. The dash and spirit with which they carried the Tugeri camp showed clearly that the constabulary are now quite able to repel any similar incursion that may take place in the future.

28. A visit of inspection was made towards the end of June to the Mekeo district. It was noticed that the Rev. H. Dauncey had succeeded in forming a solid district station at Delena. The Rev. Dr. Ginocchi, the working head of the Sacred Heart Mission, had left the district and the colony, to the great regret of

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both Protestants and Roman Catholics alike. The village and community of Pinupaka seemed in a satisfactory condition. The greatest improvement effected recently in Mekeo was the clearing of good main roads, which was being carried out under the supervision of Mr. Kowald. For this no payment was made by the Government.

The village of Mohu was in a satisfactory state in all things save that the children would not attend school; less than a dozen

boys and under a score of girls mustered in their classes.

Most of the Abiari people were absent in the gardens. They are well-conducted, but have no resident teacher. The Bereina tribe was quiet and prosperous. They have a strong mission

established among them.

The Government Station was in good order; constabulary and prisoners under strict discipline. An excellent start of mission work had been made at Vaepa, where there were on the school rolls the names of 164 children. They seemed to readily attend school, but it is still a novelty to them. So far, this is a station of great promise. At Inawi one could not fail to notice that the labour of the well-tried and devoted missionary, Father Vitali, had produced a beneficial effect on that tribe. In spite of illness and discomfort he still adheres closely to his post, and works incessantly and patiently.

It appeared that the father stationed at Yéku had needlessly alarmed himself and others because some of the young men of that tribe had beastingly said among themselves that they would not clear a road when ordered to do so by the Government officers.

His nervous, though apparently well-meant, interference might have caused serious trouble had it not been made in a quarter where the strength of the Government had already made itself felt. The village constables of the Mekeo district are already very useful in suppressing crime and offences. The lower part of the Kiva (Ethel Creek) was inspected. No good land, cultivable, was found on it. Attention was given to a difficulty that had arisen between the London Missionary Society and the Sacred Heart Mission. The former had some years ago bought land in Vanamai, and had (as afterwards proved) duly paid for it; it had also been surveyed at their expense, and they had built on it, and had a teacher resident there for some time, but, as a station, it had been left vacant apparently three or four years. Missionaries of the Sacred Heart had gone there, bought land from the nativeswhich they said was not a purchase-cleared it, built on it, and lived on it for about six months without respect for the law prohibiting the acquiring of land from aboriginals. The claim and rights of the London Missionary Society were withdrawn, so that there was no further obstacle to the issue of a grant of land there to the Sacred Heart Mission for religious purposes, when that body should apply for it, a precaution entirely neglected by them. This was the first serious encroachment of one mission on another in this colony, and in this case it was certainly not carried out because there were no villages unprovided with teachers in the district of the mission making the encroachment, for there remain BRITISH in their own district proper, many villages entirely unprovided NEW GUINEA. with teachers of any kind.

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29. In mission work there were some very decided advances to note during the year, in the case of the Wesleyan Mission and in

that of the London Missionary Society.

The former body has already attained to the position of training a considerable number of students that will in a few years become teachers among their countrymen. There are about a score of them at Dobu station alone. A most important matter in connexion with the education of these youths is that they are not allowed to accustom themselves to indolent habits or to consider that a teacher should not perform manual labour. They are the most successful cultivators in their district. They are being educated in their own climate; they grow their own food; and by the example of industry they put before their countrymen they are already teachers. From these young men great things may be expected in the evangelisation of the Wesleyan district. Rev. W. Bromilow, the chairman of the New Guinea district, seems to have started from the first with the sound conviction that the district can become completely evangelised only through the medium of native teachers. In this opinion probably every person that knows the country will concur. The Wesleyan Mission is certainly not losing time in giving effect to it in practice. They succeeded, through the Rev. Mr. Fellowes, in founding an important station in the Kiriwina Group. This was at first attended with unusual difficulty, but by tenacity and perseverance this has been overcome, and the future of that centre seems now assured.

The weak point in the teaching of this mission—from an administrative point of view-was that English did not receive so much attention as was desirable. This is in all teaching here a matter of the utmost importance. If this is ever to become an English-speaking country, now is the time to encourage the use of that language, and in this the missions could undoubtedly lend very valuable assistance. All Government officers have been instructed to see that English is used as the language of the different stations among police, native employees, and prisoners. This, together with contact and association with miners, traders, &c., would probably eventually make English the common language of the coast districts. The missions, by teaching English, could greatly assist this movement. To native young men engaging to work for Europeans some knowledge of English is of such value that it is impossible not to think that secular education imparted to them without an acquaintance with English is but of little utility or advantage. The teaching of English is now receiving more attention from the Wesleyan Mission; and no doubt every one of the native teachers will be trained to teach that language, and, perhaps eventually to teach in it; but unfortunately

some of their South Sea teachers do not know any English themselves. Such men—and there are not a few of them in the service of the Wesleyan and London Missionary Societies—may be excellent catechists, but they cannot be held to be qualified to act as teachers in a colony like this, where, from the multiplicity of dialects and the necessity for a common language, the power to teach English becomes of such special importance. It is an undoubted fact that, as regards religious teaching, the earnest seriousness of the Wesleyan Mission has made already a deep impression on the character of many natives in their district, which is undergoing a real transformation, which radiates from their score of churches and fifty preaching stations.

30. The London Missionary Society has many stations established for a number of years at which apparently not a word of English is understood. With the teachers to whom that tongue is unknown this is all but irremediable. But splendid progress has been made at certain places during the year by this the oldest, most experienced, and widest established mission. Port Moresby the Rev. A. E. Hunt has been able to actually establish the system of teaching the upper school in English. That this gentleman has done so, and does it successfully, is a notable and congratulatory event in the history of education in this colony. Under the direction of the Rev. Dr. W. G. Lawes, a very suitable training college has been built in the Central District. It is well situated for extending mission work towards a great and populous district of the interior. It is on a healthy site, is easily accessible from the sea, and has about 150 acres of cultivatable land attached to it. Here the Papuan youths will receive their final theological course before proceeding to occupy villages as teachers. There is sufficient land attached to the college for the industrial training of the youths, so that they will not be allowed to lapse into indolent habits or to become used to a mode of life different from that they will have to live as village This mission has always recognised the necessity for

way that no foreigner can imitate.

During the year Dr. Lawes put through the press an extended and much improved edition of his already excellent grammar and dictionary of the Motu dialect, by far the most accurate and

training Papuans as teachers, many of whom are now doing good

They certainly reach the hearts of their countrymen in a

valuable work ever issued on a Papuan language.

At Kwato the Rev. C. W. Abel established systematically the teaching of English, which may be said to be practically the language of that station. A novelty introduced by Mr. Abel in teaching deserves special notice on account of its originality and its undoubted great utility. It consists in imparting to the children in catechismal form a resumé in English of the native laws passed by the Government. Mr. Abel has kindly furnished the following note on his system:—

"The twenty-two native laws which the children at Kwato have committed to me very in English, and which are now being taught

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at five out-stations in Milne Bay, affect their personal relations with each other, their attitude towards personal offenders, and the

way they are expected to regard other people's property.

"They deal with their duty in regard to the formation and preservation of roads from village to village, and not only prohibit them from destroying valuable trees, such as rubber-trees, but enjoin upon them the necessity of planting cocoanuts if called upon to do so by the Government.

"They are taught obedience to those in authority over them, and the necessity of assisting, if called upon to do so, in the proper

carrying out of the law in their villages.

"Perjury is denounced, and they are apprised of the necessity of keeping strictly to any agreement they may make for work before the Government with traders, masters of vessels, and others.

"I have found, with a little practice, they are easily able to pronounce English words with remarkable accuracy; and, with a little explanation in their own language, they soon pick up the

meaning of these laws in English."

In the Western District the London Missionary Society decidedly retrograded during the year, in consequence of the absence of the Rev. James Chalmers and the ensuing want of supervision over the teachers. On the return of that gentleman to his post, matters at once began to assume a different aspect, and the mission forthwith set about regaining the lost ground.

31. The Sacred Heart Mission suffered a great loss in the departure of the Rev. Dr. Ginocchi from the colony. Up to the advent of this gentleman the mission had favoured and practised the pagan and unsanitary custom of burying the dead beneath or near the dwelling-houses of the living. Under his wise direction this practice was discontinued by the mission, and the efforts of the Government were seconded by the father to compel the natives to bury the dead in appointed cemeteries. The harmony with which Dr. Ginocchi worked with this neighbours, and his tolerance towards other churches, won for him general respect and esteem. The most important steps made by this mission during the year were the very successful establishment of a mission at Vaepa, with a branch at Aipiana, and, towards the end of the year the taking possession, somewhat irregularly, of the village of Vanamai, in a way that could hardly be regarded otherwise than as an encroachment on the London Missionary Society. district proper of the Sacred Heart, Mekeo, which has not been touched by the London Missionary Society, is not nearly fully occupied by the Sacred Heart, but preparations are being made Their missions at Inawi and at Vaepa are of for extension there. a high order; at other stations the results are not always commensurate with the labour that has been bestowed on them, nor with the sacrifices made by the members of the mission, who have suffered far more from sickness than any other people in the colony.

About half a score of stations were in operation during the year, about one for each year of the life of the mission. Several were being taken in hand about the end of the twelve months.

In some respects this mission is at a disadvantage. The number of fêtes and ceremonial observances requiring the presence of the missionaries at head-quarters is a decided drawback to them as teachers. They cannot, like the married ministers of the Protestant missions, put before the natives the example of family life after the European model, an object lesson that has been by no means without influence at Dobu, Kwato, Kerepunu, &c.

At Mohu some progress is made in teaching English to a few little girls, but practically it may be said that English is neglected by the mission. Indeed, few of the missionaries know that They have, however, some eight native boys, aged from 12 to 15, at Thursday Island for the purpose of learning English, and these may perhaps be able to teach this language by-and-by, It does not appear, however, from a report of the missionary entrusted with their training, that special attention is given to English in their case; but this is a matter that will be watched by this Government, for there can be no doubt that the training of these boys at Thursday Island will be in some respects a serious disadvantage to them. They will become declimatised; they will get accustomed to European food; and they are completely cut off from work and such industrial occupations as the planting of native gardens, by which they will principally have to live in their own villages if they ever become catechists there. Unfortunately they can have no opportunity of learning anything about European cultivation at Thursday Island.

At present this mission has no Papuan teacher in its service; and it is not easy to see how it can avail itself to any large extent of such auxiliaries for a long time to come, unless the rule of celibacy is dispensed with in the case of native teachers. If this is not done, the natives will be unfit to ever advance beyond the degree of catechist, and the work of the Sacred Heart Mission will have to be carried on chiefly by European fathers and foreign brothers, which will, for a large mission, be a heavy expenditure. Some of these fathers are excellent missionaries. and certain brothers furnish fine examples of devotion to duty, but it is doubtful that Europeans ever so thoroughly gain the sympathy of these natives and understand them as fully as their own trained countrymen would, or even as South Sea teachers The Sacred Heart Mission has suffered severely from sickness, and mortality has been high in their ranks, especially among the industrious and ever-devoted sisters. Yule Island has never had a good sanitary reputation among natives; the Mekeo district is low and damp, and the mission has no hill sanatorium. It is, however, extending further inland than the other missions, and may before long reach the hills. This mission is desirous of encouraging agricultural industry in the district, and it is hoped that its influence in that direction may be of advantage to the natives of that part of the country. The mission is liberally supplied with land wherever it requires it in its own district, but it is not the policy of this Government to grant land to any mission to help it proselytise.

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32. The Anglican Mission gained but little in power during the The result is that the period closes with the whole of the three great rivers and all the north-east coast beyond Cape Vogel totally without any mission settlement of any kind. They had some half-dozen stations at work, but some of them in an initial and rather rudimentary state. When the missions agreed among themselves to divide the colony into certain specific fields for each, the north-east coast was left exclusively to the Anglican Mission. Prior to that date this mission was inclined to think itself unfairly confined by not being entrusted as well with the care of the islands now occupied by the Wesleyan Mission; but the north-east coast alone has proved to be so much beyond its strength that by far the greater portion of it is entirely neglected. It is sincerely to be hoped that mission work of a serious kind may be established soon on the now unoccupied northern coast and on the large rivers. The Rev. Copland King, the head of the mission, has done all that it was possible for him to do with the few half-trained teachers at his disposal. Personally he has done as much as it was possible for any one man to do. Exceptionally good work has been accomplished at the head-quarters of the mission, where, however, the omission of the English language from the list of the subjects taught is, from the public point of view, much to be regretted. But what has been done outside that centre does not amount to Unless there is a large increase of strength to this mission it would be hopeless to look to it for the evangelisation of the north-east coast. Mr. King has under tuition a small number of youths that may perhaps furnish two or three teachers; but one man, however able and willing he may be, can do but little towards supplying such a large area of country with native teachers.

33. There is one serious difficulty confronting alike all the missions: the irregular attendance or the non-attendance of scholars at the different schools. At certain places where the London Missionary Society have been long-established, and where they had formerly well-filled benches, there are now very poor schools. The falling off at Port Moresby, the oldest London Missionary Society school, is nearly in as great proportion as it is at Mohu, the oldest school of the Sacred Heart on the mainland. A native regulation dealing with this subject has been prepared, and the draft submitted to the several missions for their views on it. This regulation is to provide means in a mild and tentative way for enforcing school attendance.

It is becoming a matter of anxious consideration that the missions do not extend their stations inland. Up to now their operations, except in the case of the Sacred Heart Mission, which has not got half a score of miles inland, hardly leave the coast line, and there are in the interior many populous districts. From

what precedes it will be seen that there is likely to be much delay in filling up even the coast line itself in certain parts of the colony. The tendency is naturally to take up the coast villages first. But if this is done systematically, and the inland districts are then left unprovided for, serious difficulties will ultimately arise with regard to the interior. Already the Sacred Heart Mission complains of being too much cut off from the coast; but it does so somewhat unreasonably, because the coast line was occupied in its locality before it established itself there; and the heads of that mission refused to take up the then entirely unoccupied north-east coast or to settle on the eastern islands, for which they were offered the active assistance of a Government vessel. It will, however, do good work if it extends inland, as must have been its original intention, to the tribes of the interior, where it will find a very extensive and unoccupied field. The Wesleyan Mission will have no trouble in reaching the interior of their islands, and already many hill tribes come to the coast in their circuits to attend Sunday services, while other tribes are shifting down permanently to the sea.

At the present rate of expansion it will take the London Missionary Society at least two or three generations to occupy their hinterland; without further increase of strength the Anglican Mission cannot do so within a period so near as to possess any practical interest to those now living. The complete evangelisation of the tribes of this colony would therefore seem to be still a

long way off.

But even constituted as they are at present the missions contribute powerful aid towards the settlement of the country. No secular education is being supplied to natives except that which is given them by the missions. All missionaries of British citizenship, and some of those that are not, constantly inculcate the sentiment and duty of loyalty to the Queen and of obedience to the Government. The example of the disinterested life of the missionary unquestionably produces an effect on native feeling and character. Missions, to whatever church they belong, cannot but do great good here so long as they are not led into the temptation of proselytising. Any proselytising mission would assuredly do much serious harm among these natives. The total absence of missions would be preferable to proselytising.

GENERAL NATIVE WORK.

34. There was undoubtedly considerable progress made during the 12 months in the settlement of natives. The murder of Mr. Clark, on the Mambare, was fortunately the only case of the kind that occurred during the year; and it was perpetrated in a district that had but little acquaintance with Europeans, and among men that were strangers to the country, quite unaccustomed to deal with wild natives. The influence of the Government was better established near each centre of authority, and in many cases its area was largely extended. The full force of village

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policemen or of chiefs doing police duty at the end of the year amounted in round numbers to about 120 men, as follows:-

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West	144	CONT.		5	17 chiefs
W est				1	26 police
East -	-	-		-	25 ,,
Louisiades	-	-	-	-	14 ,,
Rigo, &c.	-	Haran I	7	-	22 ,,
Mekeo	-	-1		-	20 ,,
Total	-	-		-	124

In their districts, serious crime has been reduced to limits about as low as it reaches in ordinary civilised communities. There are, however, large areas towards the centre of the country where no Government control whatever is exercised; and there are many inland districts where at present it only exercises an inhibitory influence, under which great raids are no longer indulged in, but where solitary and petty crimes go unpunished. The limited means at the disposal of the Administration do not admit of any attempt to reduce all the tribes of the colony to authority at one time or even within a short space of time. That would require an expenditure probably ten times as great as that which is at present available. The slower process of working from certain established centres, being the only one practicable. must therefore be persevered in. The Government continues to have good reason to be satisfied with the aptitude of the natives for civilisation and with their growing regard for established authority. One of the difficulties officers complain of is that the name of the Government is from personal motives frequently abused by Europeans and others to intimidate natives. It is, of course, fully recognised that any man should invoke the name of the Government with natives to prevent the committal of any crime or offence, or to preserve peace; but when threats of Government punishment are held forth in order to procure the services of natives, or to extort unfair trade advantages, then much harm is Unfortunately, such cases are by no means unknown. At least one officer has complained several times that certain teachers in his district are very ready to lodge complaints against natives, and as soon as the latter are dealt with judicially then the informant or complainant proceeds, with the knowledge of the native, to beg for the remission of the sentence. In all districts, however, the missions render valuable service to magistrates in bringing to their knowledge offences that might otherwise remain unknown.

Less progress has been made than might have been expected in making the natives extend their cocoanut plantations. It would appear that officers have been so keen on the suppression of crime and the extension of their authority to new tribesmatters that require much travelling over difficult country—that the more domestic concerns of the settled tribes have not had as yet so much attention as they require. It is a matter for con-

gratulation that some of the missionaries now take a lively interest in encouraging the natives to extend their plantations of cocoanuts, &c. At the Christmas and other meetings of natives it is well known that, for example, the Rev. Dr. Lawes and Mr. Abel have earnestly urged this matter on natives. Such counsel will certainly not be altogether lost.

On Sudest Island a considerable number of natives wash out gold on their own account; in other settled districts they engage to work for miners, traders, &c., or they make copra. The collection of rubber, however, promises to become the principal native industry. For this there is large scope in the colony, and it is an occupation that is congenial to natives. The number of natives engaged before the Government officers for terms of service was—west, 163; east, 511; Port Moresby, 268. Unfortunately other officers have omitted this point in their reports.

It appears that in certain districts the greater part of the time of natives is taken up in preparing for and attending feasts. The general excuse has been that they were to celebrate the establishment of intertribal peace, but this threatens to become a nuisance. The opening of cemeteries is now so well established and widespread that there is no longer any apprehension of serious trouble in suppressing house and village burial. The only place where obstinate difficulty was really created was in the Mekeo district, at the time that the Sacred Heart Mission favoured and practised this most insalubrious mode of sepulture.

If continues to be a matter for congratulation that relations between Europeans and natives have remained perfectly tranquil. The treatment of natives by miners and settlers generally has on the whole been exemplary. The miners that have worked in this colony up to now have been nearly all hardworking respectable men, who have dealt fairly by the native, although there have, of course, been instances in which they were too ready to take the law into their own hands. And there have been a few cases in which natives have been unjustly dealt with.

35. One of the most interesting subjects in ethnology to which attention has been given during the year is that of Totemism. That this exists in a modified form from the Louisiades to Orangerie Bay seems clear. It also extends up the north-east coast; but it appears to have been quite unknown, in a recognisable form, west of Cloudy Bay. It is a matter that requires much further and very patient investigation, and its elucidation proceeds but slowly. Birds are the most common emblems of the totem tribes, but animals, fishes, and even insects are used. Pictorial representation of the totem has not been observed anywhere. The general belief seems to be that the totem contains the spirit of a common ancestor. The native would not kill his totem animal, and was prepared to go to war with any person or tribe that did so. Its principal effect is in regard to sexual relations. No man can marry a woman having the same totem as himself, even if their tribes live so widely apart as to be

complete strangers to each other. All sexual commerce between men and women of the same totem is completely prohibited. violation of this great principle was nearly sure to lead to serious disturbance, unless it were heavily paid for. To have a common totem does not interfere with or prevent fighting between, individuals or tribes. The children take the totem of the mother.

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People belonging to tribes west of Orangerie Bay, after they are brought into contact with totem tribes, readily adopt the idea that it is the correct thing to have a totem, and they are always prepared to mislead the inexperienced inquirer. On the other hand, its influence is waning already in the east in at least some respects. Serious men may even now be seen eating their sacred totem with evident relish, but its influence in match-making will probably not become wholly extinct for several generations to come.

Native dialects.

36. The brief and very imperfect vocabulary of words from the Upper Musa River was obtained chiefly from natives of Gewaduru and Gudari villages, but partly from natives on the Adaua River. It has since been supplemented by a small collection made by Mr. W. Simpson, chiefly on the Moni River The natives of the Upper Musa and Moni Valley converse with each other freely, but it is not at all clear yet whether they speak the same dialect or not. There are certainly considerable differences in the names given to common things in the two

The Mambare vocabulary has been obtained from the tribes nearest to the Government Station. It is a language that is understood over a considerable area of country on the coast nearly as far south as the Musa River. Its compilation will be made more complete as Mr. Green finds time and opportunity

of adding to it.

The Dungerwab dialect was written down from members of that tribe. They lived on the Wassi Kussa inlet before they were broken up and dispersed by the invading Tugeri. They would very speedily take to English if they had the opportunity of mixing much with English-speaking people. All that is known of the Bangu language is printed with the Dungerwab dialect.

37. To the subject of native land tenure there was only one contribution during the year, an unusually complete one, by Mr.

Hely, on Kiwai Island in the Fly estuary.

An interesting description was furnished by Mr. J. B. Cameron of a native burial he attended. This took place in the Kabadi district, some two score of miles west of Port Moresby. Perhaps the points of most interest in it are the painting of the body as if for war, and ornamenting it with native jewellery.

Public Works.

38. Practically all public work was confined to what could be effected by prison labour. In the Central District it consisted in

weeding and in adding to the cocoanut plantations, and in building a sea-wall on the foreshore. Messrs. Burns, Philp, and Co. erected a substantial wharf, at which vessels drawing 10 feet can discharge cargo at low water. The sea-wall was laid out so as to reach from this wharf to the Government sheds near the foot of Paga Hill. In the Rigo district some main paths were well cleared by the several tribes, acting under the direction of the Government Agent, and progress was made in substantially bridging the creek where crossed by the road leading from the sea to the Government Station. The cocoanut plantation was also extended.

In Mekeo the principal undertaking was road-making, especially a trunk path from the Government station to a convenient navigable creek near Mohu village. There was much work in renewing the station buildings, which are of native materials. In the Western Division some new houses were built and substantial fencing was carried out, while the foreshore was faced with timber, and considerable progress was made in constructing a stone jetty.

At Samarai roads were improved, and a beginning was made

in forming a sea-wall on the south side of the island.

At the Tamata station, on the Mamba, work was confined to building houses and planting food, labour which was performed on a large scale in proportion to the number of hands employed.

At Nivani more land was cleared, and some cocoanuts planted. At the Western Station, at Mekeo, and at Tamata all buildings are of native materials, and are constructed by the officers respectively in charge there. This applies also to the police quarters at Samarai and Nivani.

Substantial constabulary barracks of wood and iron were built at Port Moresby and Rigo; also a powder magazine, and quarters

for the boat's crew at Port Moresby.

Some small boats were constructed for the Government, but no new vessels of any considerable size.

TRADE.

Details of imports and exports, navigation, and postal matters are given in the Appendices* to this report.

Imports.

39. The total of imports into the three ports of entry has been:--

Y	ear.		Samarai.	Port Moresby.	Daru.	Total.
			£	£	£	£
1888-89			6,016	5,019	_	11,108
1889-90			6,798	9,305	_	16,104
1890-91		-	7,455	8,075		15,530
1891-92			10,379	13,377	-	23,755
1892-93		-	13,173	12,088	_	25,261
1893-94		-	15,331	11,428	1,741	28,501
1894-95		-	12,079	14,036	2,253	28,367
1895-96		-	20,912	12,235	1,374	34,521

* Not printed.

The chief items imported have been:-

	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Food stuffs	£ 5,400	£ 7,124	£ 4,463	£ 6,037	£ 6,252	£ 7,181	£ 8,062	£ 9,328
Drapery and clothing	1,735	1,582	1,712	2,838	3,414	3,002	2,901	3,149
Tobacco and cigars -	996	1,290	2,354	3,257	2,407	3,985	3,059	2,735
Hardware	927	1,123	1,535	2,677	2,828	3,162	3,440	4,844
Beverages	805	1,143	688	890	1,625	1,760	1,116	1,755
Building materials -	246	1,086	1,224	1,965	1,474	2,889	1,727	1,916
Other articles -	999	2,756	3,554	6,091	7,261	6,522	7,997	10,794
Total -	11,108	16,104	15,530	23,755	25,261	28,501	28,302	34,521

Food stuffs show a substantial increase, which is more or less due to the increase in the European population attached to the Woodlark Gold Field and the auriferous country on the Mambare River. Although the value of the tobacco imported is less than the value of what was imported last year, the imports of tobacco in quantity exceed last year's imports by about five tons. Hardware displays a considerable advance, but mining implements account for a portion of this. An increased European population means an increase of imported beverages. Miscellaneous articles show a decided rise in value.

Exports.

The total value of exports, as entered at the Custom House, has been:—

Y	ear.	40.0	Samarai.	Port Moresby.	Daru.	Total.
1888-89	1012	-	£ 5,071	£ 871	<u>£</u>	£ 5,943
889-90		-	5,458	997		6,455
1890-91		-	7,678	755	-	8,434
1891-92		-	8,099	3,190	_	11,289
1892-93		-	6,290	8,675	1-2	14,966
1893-94		-	9,555	3,542	1,854	14,952
1894-95	-	-	8,399	5,059	2,757	16,215
1895-96		-	10,600	8,326	475	19,401

The exports show an increase of over 3,000l. Gold, however, represents over 2,000l. of this. The gold that actually is exported must be much more than what is reported at the Customs. It may be safely asserted that the gold obtained from Woodlark Island alone from 1st July 1895 to 30 June 1896 amounted to some

thousands of pounds sterling in value. The statement that follows gives the annual returns of gold reported at the Customs for export:—

-	-	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Ounces		3,850	3,470	2,426	1,235	582	1,128	728	1,373
Value -		£14,387	12,440	8,371	4,322	2,236	3,906	2,565	4,735

The principal export in value after gold was sandalwood, of which there was exported 524 tons, valued at 4,035l., being an

increase of 146 tons on last year's exports.

It was stated in the last annual report that there was every reason to suppose that indiarubber would take a more prominent position in this report. It has done so. A couple of hundred-weight was the export for 1894-95. During the financial year last ended nearly three tons were sent away, which was valued at 609l. This industry should increase, as indiarubber collecting can be carried on by natives without European supervision; and the knowledge of how to prepare it, and of its use as an article of trade, is spreading amongst a race who are always on the look out to find products which they can exchange for European goods.

On the list of exports sponge appears for the first time. Sponges are being cultivated in the lagoons of the Conflict Group

of islets.

A small quantity of ginger was exported. In a wild state

there is plenty of it in the country.

Pearls and pearl-shells show a decrease. The Trobriand beds, from which the pearls are mostly obtained, are, of course, not so prolific as they were at first. The diving for pearl-shell seems to take fits and starts, the chief obstacle in the prosecution of the work being the depth of the water in which the beds are found.

There is but little difference in the copra export. The following table gives the export of this article since the foundation of the Possession:—

						£
1888-89	-		76 to	ns, va	lued at	550
1889-90			43	,,	,,,	250
1890-91		-	198	9)	,,	1,433
1891-92	-	-	340	29	"	2,084
1892-93	- 1-		194	"	,,	1,159
1893-94			450	,,	"	2,885
1894-95	- 1	- 1	427	,	"	2,830
1895-96		7-1	381	,,	"	2,748
			and the same of th		1 4	

The total volume of trade for the year was-

Imports Exports			- 34,521 - 19,401
	Total		- 53,922

Shipping.

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40. The shipping entered inwards and outwards was wholly British. The total number of foreign-going vessels entered inwards was 89, representing 10,387 tons; the entries outwards were 60 vessels, representing 9,472 tons. This gives an increase in tonnage, as compared with the previous year, of over 8,000 tons, due in part to a large steamer having been during the year put into the carrying trade between the Possession and the Australian colonies.

The coasting vessels entered were 169; tonnage, 3,639. The mail schooner has made regular trips during the year.

Postal.

41. The postal business for the year, as compared with previous years, shows a slight increase. The following is a tabulated statement for the past eight years:—

Article.	1888-89.	1889–90.	1890-91.	1891–92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894–95.	1895-96.
Letters received -	2,366	3,166	2,664	4,393	4,079	6,280	6,279	7,130
Letters despatched -	2,587	2,586	2,191	3,917	4,011	5,297	6,189	4,987
Packets received -	93	111	142	45	230	157	129	246
Packets despatched -	98	84	88	78	427	467	468	281
Newspapers received	4,071	6,845	6,042	8,505	6,749	8,131	7,046	7,197
Newspapers despatched.	574	590	468	756	276	240	776	828

FINANCE.

Revenue.

42. The amount of revenue paid into the Queensland Treasury by the Possession during the year was 6,547l. It is compared below with the revenues of previous years:—

Items.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96
Customs dues	£ 2,416	£ 2,893	£ 2,525	£ 4,428	£ 3,757	£ 5,067	£ 4,622	£ 5,974
Gold field receipts	187	20	23	24	23	54	26	78
Fees	- 2	4	4	10	157	115	7	21
Fines -	- 25	41	46	34	24	22	27	37
Licenses -	- 2	11	21	136	106	317	247	293
Miscellaneous	42	44	53	149	535	291	109	144
Total -	2,679	3,015	2,673	4,783	4,604	5,866	5,109	6,547

Expenditure.

43. The sum of 15,000*l*. appropriated to the ordinary administrative services of the year was expended. The sum of 437*l*, 13s. 5d. allowed for the support of two new Government agencies was also expended for such purpose. The expenditure of the 15,000*l*. is classified and compared as follows with that of previous years:—

Head of Expenditur	e. 1888–89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96
Civil list salaries	£ 2,633	£ 3,300	£ 3,290	£ 3,300	£ 3,300	£ 3,300	£ 3,248	£ 3,186
Other salaries	1,796	2,381	3,476	3,559	3,707	3,479	3,640	3,779
Vessels and boats	2,747	2,564	2,938	2,993	1,600	1,308	2,114	1,587
Allowances -	1,296	2,548	1,500	1,356	1,748	1,454	1,614	1,388
Buildings and works	185	1,144	979	780	872	435	397	661
Agriculture -	2	137	355	335	146	203	145	142
Mail service -	445	-	_	_	450	750	900	900
Miscellaneous	1,662	2,898	2,459	2,675	3,174	4,071	2,942	3,357
Total -	10,769	14,975	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000

SS. "Merrie England."

44. During the year ending the 30th June 1896, the "Merrie England" steamed 15,708 miles and consumed 714 tons of coal, making an average distance of 22 miles for each ton of coal.

The financial year of the steamer ends on the 31st March. The gross total expenditure for the year was 7,327l. 14s. Of this sum 433l. 9s. 3d. was refunded by earnings, leaving a net expenditure of 6,894l. 4s. 9d. The Imperial Government provided 3,000l. and the three contributing colonies 1,333l. 6s. 8d. each for the steamer's maintenance.

Establishments.

45. At the end of the year the personnel of the establishments of the public service, besides the civil list officers, was as follows:—

Resident Magistrate, Central Division -Dr. J. A. Blayney. B. A. Hely. Western Division Eastern Division -M. H. Moreton. A. M. Campbell. Louisiades Government Agent, Mekeo - Rigo -C. Kowald. - A. E. English. Rigo " North-east Coast - J. Green. A. W. Butterworth. Commandant -H. N. Chester. Government Storekeeper D. Ballantine. Treasurer and Collector

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Sub-Collector, Samarai - W. E. Armit.
Sub-Collector, Daru - - H. W. de Lange.
Head Gaoler and Overseer of Works - J. Meredith.
Commander, s.s. "Merrie England" - M. A. Jones.
First Engineer, "Merrie England" - H. Phillips.

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The only new post created was that of Government Agent for the north-east coast. The service sustained at the end of the year a sensible loss by the retirement, on account of ill-health, of Commander Jones. During the time he was in command of the steamer he was able, by means of special knowledge and proficiency, to give valuable assistance in preparing sketch surveys and in determining geographical positions, while from his acquaintance with business transactions he was in a position to attend, with decided advantage to the service, to many matters of a mercantile nature when he was present in the ports of Queensland.

Towards the end of the year Mr. R. J. Kennedy resigned his appointment as Resident Magistrate of the Louisiades, and retired

from the service.

LANDS.

46. It appears that no Crown grant was issued during the year 1895-96, although a considerable number of small holdings of land were alienated to missions, traders, and others.

The most discouraging element in the administration of the Possession is the fact that no European planting on a scale of any importance has been started, although the colony presents

considerable advantages of soil, climate, and labour.

The contributing colonies agreed to expend a special grant of 1,000*l*. in seeking out and roughly surveying a certain number of blocks of land suitable for different kinds of agriculture. These it is intended to offer on very favourable terms to settlers possessing the means necessary to enter on serious cultivation. This survey was, however, not entered on, though sanctioned, in the year under review.

METEOROLOGY.

47. Meteorological returns have been sent in only from two stations—Port Moresby and Daru. These show clearly that the year was in the west an unusually dry one. The rainfall at these two stations has been:—

Year.		Daru.	Daru. Port Moresby.			
1895–96 -	-	Ins. 69·49	Ins. 32·15			
1894–95 -		116.52	40.11			

At Port Moresby rain fell on 54 days, 24 inches out of the total of 32 falling in nearly equal proportions in January, February, and March.

At Daru rain fell on 175 days, 58 inches out of the total of 69 falling in the first five months of 1896.

The warmest month at each station was December. At Port Moresby the highest December temperature was 88 degrees, the lowest 83 degrees. At Daru these were 84.3 degrees and 78.3 degrees respectively.

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS.

48. A brief notice by Mr. de Vis is attached* on certain additions to the public collections of this colony preserved in the Queensland Museum.

It is, as pointed out by the Curator, very much to be desired that an illustrated catalogue of this collection shall be prepared. The difficulty is the usual one—lack of funds. This colony possesses no means whatever that could be made available for

such a purpose.

It will be noticed that this collection, which is purely of a national character, has already assumed large proportions. It was not practicable to establish it in the Possession on account of the expense it would have occasioned. It is only by the liberality of the Government of Queensland that its existence has been made possible, and that it is accessible to the public. It has already been pronounced by competent authority to be the best Papuan collection yet brought together. With the continued co-operation of the Government of Queensland it can soon be made greatly better than it is now, before it has become too late.

49. A melancholy interest is attached to the notes from the late Baron Sir Ferdinand Von Müller, as they are the last that can be furnished by him. They were not elaborated so fully as was intended, but it has been thought that they would be useful and of interest, even in their present form. One of the most cherished studies of that great and enthusiastic man of science was the flora of New Guinea, of which he possessed unique knowledge, and in which, especially in the alpine plants, he took the very deepest interest. His hearty, sympathetic, and faithful co-operation will be greatly missed in this important branch of research in connexion with this new colony in a new and greatly diversified country.

GENERAL.

50. One of the most striking events of the year was the arrival in this colony of the remains of an expedition fitte i out in Kaiser Wilhelms-land, and led by the well-known traveller, Herr Otto Ehlers, who was accompanied by Herr Piering, Officer of Police at

BRITISH
NEW GUINEA.
1895-6.

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Friedrich Wilhelmshafen. They had, on setting out, forty-three coloured carriers and a creole servant. It was calculated that they carried with them provisions for thirty days. They were furnished with eight rifles and two shot guns, but were not provided with instruments for geographical determination, nor with materials for making collections in natural history; but they carried some trade goods. The party started inland from the mouth of the Francisca River on the 14th August. On the 23rd August they reached an inland village, which must have been in German territory. There they remained for three days, and it does not appear that they saw another native till they reached the gardens of the Mobiabi people on the Lakekamu River on the 21st October, sixty-seven days after they had begun the journey overland. Rainy weather set in even before they reached the inland village, and there the first death occurred. They met with no native track beyond that place, but were constantly exposed to rain and damp fogs while cutting their way through dense forests, up and down steep mountains, and across precipitous ravines, swimming rivers, devoured by myriads of insatiable leeches, and suffering from cold and fatigue, to which was soon added a more fatal enemy-hunger. The clothes of the two leaders were torn to pieces by thorns, and the carriers, having no tent, had to rest all night cowering in the rain. At what date they reached British territory it is not possible to say, but their food was probably exhausted or nearly so by that time. Herr Ehlers seems to have done courageously and nobly all that it was possible to do to keep up the courage and spirits of his party, but fate was against him.

They were reduced to eating grass, the leaves of trees, &c., and it does not appear that the leaders had any better fare than the carriers. Dysentery reduced them all to extreme debility, and soon ten men died. About the 30th September it would appear that they struck some considerable branch of the Lakekamu, but the strength of the brave leader and of his companion (Piering) was now completely exhausted. An effort was made to descend the river on a raft, which soon capsized, drowning the already comatose and dying Europeans. The survivors were apparently twenty-one in number after the death of Herr Ehlers. They travelled nine days along the river, and then built rafts, by which they descended six days before they reached the first cocoanut trees of the Mobiabi tribe on the 21st October. Then the wanderers were found by some of the Mobiabi men, who at first took them to be thieves. As soon as the Mobiabi people discovered their pitiable condition they treated the strangers with great kindness, taking them to their village and giving them the best welcome they could. The chief, who is an intelligent and kindly man, gave them his only shirt. In the village there was only one tobacco-pipe, that belonging to the chief, and this he immediately presented to the guests. After a few days' rest the nineteen men that reached Mobiabi were conveyed to Toaripi, where some of them were temporarily received by the teacher of the London

Missionary Society. The chief of Toaripi set off to search for a missing man, and after much trouble succeeded in finding him.

Altogether the conduct of the natives was very gratifying in this matter. The survivors were brought to Port Moresby by Mr. Kowald, Government Agent for the Mekeo district. At Port Moresby they were properly cared for till they were returned to Friedrich Wilhelmshafen by the s.s. "Merrie England."

Up to his dying moments Herr Ehlers seems to have thought of the rescue of his followers, and it is owing to his last directions

that they reached the coast and escaped with their lives.

Much of the above information has been obtained from the admirable report of Landeshauptmann Rüdiger, published in the

"Deutsches Kolonialblatt."

51. This Report should not be closed without acknowledging the obligation of this colony to Sir Hugh Nelson, the head of the Executive Government of Queensland, for many acts of valuable assistance rendered during the year in a variety of ways, both through the personal influence and authority of the Premier himself and by his permitting and directing different officers in the service of the Government of Queensland to perform special services for this Possession. Captain Almond, Mr. McDowall, and Mr. Deshon were always ready with advice and with active practical aid

whenever they were appealed to. They have again well merited the thanks of this Government, as they have done in previous years.

It should also be mentioned that General Sir Henry Wylie Norman, in retiring from the position of Governor of Queensland, ceased during the year to be directly concerned with the affairs of this colony. Sir Henry Norman took much interest in the development of the Possession, and, with the acumen of an officer of great experience, he was always prompt and generous in noticing meritorious service and in encouraging in this way the different officers and employees of this Administration, even down to the lowest grades.

His Excellency WM. MACGREGOR. the Right Hon. Lord Lamington, K.C.M.G.,
Governor of Queensland.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 184.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 162 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

November 1896.



LONDON:

PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C., and 32. ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and 90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., LIMITED, 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title-page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colo	ony.				Year.
151	Seychelles	-	1.5			1894
152	Basutoland	-		-		1894-5
153	Fiji	-		-	-	1894
154	St. Helena	-	-		100	,,
155	Ceylon	-			-	,,
156	Mauritius -	-		-		3,
157	Labuar -	-		-		"
158	Gold Coast				-	,,
159	British Guiana -	-	-	-	-	"
160	Sierra Leone -	-14		- /.	-	
161	Jamaica				-	1894-5
162	British Honduras -	-			-	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	-		-	-	1894-5
164	Newfoundland -					1894
165	Gambia	- /	-		-	"
166	Bermuda	-	-			,,
167	Leeward Islands -	-		•		,,
168	British New Guinea		4	-		1894-5
169	Zululand					1895
170	Sierra Leone -			-		"
171	Gibraltar	-		V 1000		,,
172	Malta			-	-	"
173	Barbados	-				,,
174	Turks and Caicos Islands				-	,,
175	Falkland Islands -	-			-	,,
176	St. Helena		-	-	-	,,
177	Bahamas		-	-	-	٠,,
178	Hong Kong -			-	-	99
179	Windward Islands -	-	计图题			"
180	Labuan	-	-			"
181	Trinidad and Tobago	-			-	"
182	Seychelles				-	1895
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	1.				1894
	8					and 1895

MISCELLANEOUS.

To.	Color	ay.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast		Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -	-	 Forests.
2 3	Sierra Leone		Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -		Emigration.
5	Bahamas		Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong		Bubonic Plague.
7	Hong Kong Newfoundland		Mineral Resources.

No. 184.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 162.)

Sir Alfred Moloney to Mr. Chamberlain.

Government House, Belize,
SIR,
September 25, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Acting
Colonial Secretary's report on the Blue Book for the year 1895.

I have, &c.

ALFRED MOLONEY,
Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1895.

TAXES, DUTIES, &c.

The following further changes were made in the Customs tariff in January: bacon, butter, cheese and hams, previously paying rated duty, were included in the ad valorem duty of 10 per cent.

The duty on cocoa was raised from two cents to three cents per pound; and the duty of three cents per pound on sugar was changed to one cent and a half per pound on unrefined sugar, and two cents per pound on refined sugar.

The duty on claret wine was changed from 1 dollar to 50

cents per gallon.

GENERAL REVENUE.

The total ordinary general revenue, including sales of Crown lands (\$3,468.64) amounted to \$238,483.21. A sum of \$16,128.92 was realised by sale of Savings Bank surplus stock, thus bringing up the total receipts to \$254,612.13. In addition to this \$20,000 in silver currency was received from the Mint in England, and \$500 in bronze coins.

The principal sources of revenue were:-

			\$	c.
Customs	-	•	131,961	13
Excise			46,261	18
Court fines and fees of o	ffice		17,033	48
Post Office -	-	-	7,145	73
Light and wharf dues	-		8,629	64
Land tax	•		11,643	77
94039. Wt. 20348.				

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1895. The excise duty fell short of the amount estimated by \$18,738.82, due to the abnormal quantity of rum taken out of bond in October 1894, immediately before the change of currency.

GENERAL EXPENDITURE.

The ordinary general expenditure amounted to \$257,885.61—the extraordinary expenditure, including Belize town and harbour improvements, to \$27,075.74, as follows:—

			\$	c.
Public Works -		-	1,435	31
Expenses and cost	of change	of		
currency to a gold	standard	-	15,446	96
Belize town and ha	rbour improv	re-		
ments		-	10,193	47
Total ordinary gene	eral and exti	a-		
ordinary expendi	ture amount	ed		
to -		-	284,961	35

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets and liabilities on the 31st December, General Account, were as follows:—

					\$	c.
Assets	_			-	37,845	24
Liabilities	-	-	-	-	19,083	41
Excess	of asse	ts over l	iabilities	-	18,761	83

SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNT.

					\$	C.
Assets	-			-	22,307	00
Liabilities		-		-	20,998	28
					1 000	
Excess	of assets	over	liabilities	-	1,308	72

PUBLIC DEBT ACCOUNT.

			\$	c.
Assets			24,916	18
Liabilities -	WELL BY	5 1	168,815	00
Excess of liabilities			143,898	82

LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1895.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure of the several districts:

District.		Reven	ue.	Expendi	ture.	Balance Credit Beginnin Year	at ig of	Balance Credit at of Yes	End	
Belize -			\$ 21,491	c. 82	\$ 19,015	c. 62	\$ 1,440	c. 80	\$ 3,917	c. 00
Corosal		-	4,159	92	3,924	40	1,227	09	1,462	61
Orange Walk	-	-	3,195	07	1,999	73	336	36	1,531	70
Stann Creek		-	1,451	96	1,400	34	438	25	489	87
Toledo -	-	-	697	06	602	65	611	74	706	15
The Cayo		-	700	00	499	40	50	00	250	60

LOCAL BOARDS.

The District Boards Ordinance, No. 30, of 1894, was brought into operation on the 1st July 1895. Under this Ordinance a District Board has been constituted for each of the six districts into which the Colony is divided with the Colonial Secretary as Chairman of the Belize District Board, and the District Commissioner in each of the other districts as Chairman.

Each district board is entrusted with the general rule and good government of its district, and, subject to the provisions of the Ordinance and the standing orders and rules made thereunder, may do all things necessary to carry out such trust, and in particular do, or cause to be done, all or any of the matters following: Establish, regulate, control, maintain, and manage markets, slaughter-houses, bath-houses, wash-houses; impose rents and fees upon persons using, or benefited by, such places. Light towns or popular areas; impose such restrictions upon owners of land in towns as may be necessary to prevent any building upon such land from being or becoming a source of danger to surrounding property whether from fire or otherwise; generally to perform all duties and functions and to do such acts as may be necessary for the improvement, development, and conservancy of the district.

POLICE.

In April an Ordinance, No. 10, of 1895, was passed constituting a new police force, separate and distinct from the constabulary, for service in the Belize and southern districts of the Colony, the duties of the constabulary being confined to the northern and western districts.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1895. The new force consists of :-

- 1 superintendent.
- 2 check sergeants.
- 1 detective sergeant.
- 4 corporals.
- 14 first-class constables.
- 20 second-class constables.
- 28 third-class constables.

Mr. D. D. Barnes, formerly of the British Guiana Constabulary, is the Superintendent, and the two check sergeants have been obtained from the London police. The remainder of the force has been obtained in the Colony.

PUBLIC WORKS.

With the exception of a new house for the District Commissioner, built at Punta Gorda, no new work was undertaken in 1895.

Extensive repairs were done to Government House.

CROWN LANDS.

Twenty-four grants were made in 1895, and the land granted amounted to 2,871½ acres.

LEGISLATION.

1'wenty-three Ordinances were passed in 1895, of which the following are the most important:—

No. 1. To consolidate and amend the Law relating to Duties

of Customs and Excise.

No. 4. To amend Chapter 114 of the Consolidated Laws relating to certain improvements in the town of Belize, and certain portions of the foreshore and harbour.

No. 5. To amend Ordinance No. 8 of 1894, relating to the

Savings Bank.

No. 7. To amend the Public Health Ordinance, 1894.

No. 10. To organise a Police Force.

No. 11. To provide compensation for Losses by Riots.

No. 17. To authorise and regulate the working of a tram line or railway by the British Honduras Syndicate, Limited, and to authorise the improvement and extension of the same.

No. 22. To establish a Reward Fund for the benefit of the Police

Force.

No 23. To prevent the wearing of certain uniforms by unauthorised persons.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

BRITISH HONDURAS 1895.

The changes during the year were:

Mr. E. B Sweet-Escott, C.M.G., Colonial Sec e tary, administered the Government from the 26th April to the 2nd December during the absence from the Colony, on leave, of his Excellency Governor Sir A. Moloney, K.C.M.G.

Mr. McKinney, C.M.G., Treasurer, acted as Colonial Secretary

during the same period.

Mr. S. G. Woods, Registrar-General, acted as Chief Justice from the 1st September to the end of the year in the place of Chief Justice Anderson, on leave.

CURRENCY.

The standard of currency is the gold dollar of the United States; the gold coins of the United States being legally current at their respective values.

The British sovereign is a legal tender for \$4.86; and the half-

sovereign for \$2.43.

There is a subsidiary silver currency consisting of:—

5 cent piece, 10 cent piece,

25 cent piece,

50 cent piece,

and there is a bronze 1 cent piece. Silver is a legal tender to \$10; and bronze to 50 cents. There is also an issue of currency notes consisting of :-

> One dollar, Two dollars. Five dollars. Ten dollars, Fifty dollars, One hundred dollars.

A currency note is a legal tender for the amount expressed

therein.

The holder of a currency note is entitled to obtain, on demand, of the Commissioners of Currency payment in current coin, gold or silver, but not more than \$10 in silver.

EDUCATION.

At the end of 1895 there were 46 Government-aided schools, distributed as follows:-

Belize District 20 7 Corosal District Orange Walk District 4 Stann Creek District Toledo

Number of scholars on the rolls, 3,802.

Average daily attendance during the year, 2,696. Amount of Government grant in aid, \$11,136.06

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1895.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

For Belize.

The minimum shade temperature (January) was 50.0, and the maximum (April) 93.0.

91.06 inches of rain fell during the year, and the number of days on which rain fell was 125.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

The following gives a summary of the value of the imports for 1895 :--

					\$
1. Live animals, f	ood, drink	, and	narcotics	-	527,993
2. Raw materials		-	-	-	229,730
3. Manufactured	materials:				
(1.) Textile		-		-	292,967
(2.) Metal			-	-	84,268
(3.) Other		-		-	142,735
4. Coin, bullion, a	and specie		M-1-1	-	175,947
	1	otal	•	-]	1,453,640

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom amounted to \$427,802; from the United States, \$751,575.

Exports.

The exports amounted to \$1,283,998 in value.

				Ψ
To the U	nited Kingdom		-	586,841
	nited States -	-	-	331,040

The balance, \$366,117, to	vario	us other	count	ries.
The exports included—				
Bananas, bunches	-	30 - 516		454,316
Cedar, feet -	-		-	62,965
Cocoanuts -	-	-	0	1,440,816
Logwood, tons	-		-	30,830
Mahogany, feet			-	2,868,346
Oranges, barrels	1 - 7	14:50		376
Pine apples -	-			8,486
Plantains -	-		-	1,04,020
Sapodilla Gum, lbs.	H	The	b	705,478
Sponges, lbs	-	Yar-Edi		8,265

SHIPPING.

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1895.

9

Statement of number and tonnige of sailing vessels and steamers entered and cleared in 1895 as compared with 1894.

Entered.

	V	ear.		Sailing Vessels. Steam			mers.
	16	ear.		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1894	-		-	414	33,586	186	121,188
1895			-	397	40,102	182	121,368

Cleared.

Year.				Sailing	Vessels.	Steamers.		
	16	ear.		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
1894	4		-	367	34,846	186	119,709	
1395	-		-	367	32,203	182	121,513	

SAVINGS BANK.

On the 31st December 1895, the deposits in the Savings Bank amounted to \$20,998.28. The deposits during the year amounted to \$9,851.17, and the withdrawals \$9,039.58. Excess of deposits over withdrawals, \$811.59.

POSTAL.

The revenue of the Post Office for 1895 amounted to \$7,145.75, and the expenditure, including subsidies, to \$17,056.32.

The number of letters and other articles sent to, and received from, places abroad in 1893, 1894, and 1895, were as follows:—

			1893.	1894.	1895.
Ordinary letters -		-	79,985	86,932	105,425
Registered letters -	-	-	2,897	2,893	3,797
Post cards		-	1,810	2,425	2,144
Newspapers, books, &c.	-	-	61,078	61,125	67,819
Parcels by Parcel Post	-	-	579	597	772

BRITISH HONDURAS. 1895. Inland.

			1893.	1894.	1895.
Letters -	•		35,507	40,638	36,187
Newspapers, &c.		-	7,088	8,532	7,062
Parcels -		-	414	248	249

Money Orders issued on places abroad during 1895 amounted to 823l. 7s. 6d., and Money Orders drawn on the Colony amounted to 174l. 12s. 6d.

September 23, 1896.

W. J. McKinney, Acting Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 191.

CANADA.

DIGEST OF THE STATISTICS FOR 1895.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

March 1897.



LONDON:

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1897.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	P	Cole	ony.				Year.
156	Mauritius -				-		1894
157	Labuan -	•	- 1		-	-	,,
158	Gold Coast	-	- 10			- 1	79
159	British Guiana	-	-			-	1894-95
160	Sierra Leone	-	-			-	1894
161	Jamaica -	- 10 10	-	-		-	1894-95
162	British Honduras					-	1894
163	British Bechuanals	ind	-	-	-	-	1894-95
164	Newfoundland		-				1894
165	Gambia -		-		4.50	-	>>
166	Bermuda -			-	-	-	"
167	Leeward Islands		-				"
168	British New Guine	ea	-			-	1894-95
169	Zululand -	- 195	-				1895
170	Sierra Leone	_			-	-	"
171	Gibraltar -						"
172	Malta -	_				-	"
173	Barbados -		-				"
174	Turks and Caicos	Islands	-))
175	Falkland Islands		-				"
176	St. Helena	-					22
177	Bahamas -		a Family	-	312		22
178	Hong Kong						"
179	Windward Islands		_			_	
180	Labuan -						" "
181	Trinidad and Toba	1.00		100	-		
182	Seychelles -	-					"
183	Mauritius and Rod	rigues					1894 and
100	Middinias and 100	25000					1895
184	British Honduras	- 14					1895
185	Lagos -	PARTE.					
186	Basutoland						1895-96
187	Ceylon -			The state of		_	1895
188	British Guiana						1895-96
189	Gold Coast						1895
		Thursday of	2017	TO THE			1895-96
190	Jamaica -		100000			11000	1000-90

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony	7.	Subject.	
1	Gold Coast		Economic Agriculture.	
2	Zululand		Forests.	
2 3	Sierra Leone		Geology and Botany.	
4	Canada		Emigration.	
5	Bahamas		Sisal Industry.	
6	Hong Kong		Bubonic Plague.	
7	Hong Kong Newfoundland		Mineral Resources.	

No. 191.

CANADA. 1895.

CANADA.

The ACTING GOVERNOR GENERAL to M. CHAMBERLAIN.

SIR, Ottawa, December 15, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a copy of a communication from the office of the Privy Council of Canada relative to a Digest of the Fiscal Statistics of the Dominion for the year 1895, which was forwarded to the Canadian High Commissioner some time since.

The Digest in question was transferred by that gentleman to the Colonial Office, as will be observed from the terms of the

letter now enclosed.

I have, &c. HENRY STRONG. Deputy Governor.

Privy Council, Ottawa, December 15, 1896.

SIR, THE High Commissioner for Canada having transferred a Digest of the Statistics of Canada for the fiscal year of 1895, which was forwarded to him under Order in Council of the 21st October 1896, to the Colonial Office, suggests that a Despatch from his Excellency the Governor General should be sent to the Colonial Secretary to serve as an introduction to it in the printed paper, to make the matter uniform with the reports of other Colonies that have already been published.

To the Governor General's Secretary.

I have, &c. JOHN J. MCGEE, Clerk of the Privy Council.

DIGEST of the STATISTICS of CANADA, 1895, by GEORGE JOHNSON, F.S.S. (Hon.), Government Statistician.

1. Canada was discovered by John and Sebastian Cabot sailing under commission from King Henry VII. of England in 1497, the

point of landing being Cape Breton.

2. Jacques Cartier, of St. Malo, France, landed at port of Brest, near the Straits of Belle Isle in 1534, and discovered those portions of Canada now called new New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec.

3. Colonisation was practically begun in 1605-8. In 1605 Baron de Poutrincourt established Port Royal (now Annapolis Royal in Nova Scotia), the first actual settlement by Europeans.

In 1608 Champlain founded Quebec.

4. The name "Canada" first appears in the Bref récit de la Navigation faite en 1536-37 par Capt. Jacques Cartier. It was originally the name of the chief town of the Indians who had possession of the river bank from the River Saguenay to the citadel of Quebec.

5. The Dominion of Canada consists of the following provinces,

given in alphabetical order :-

British Columbia.

Manitoba.

New Brunswick.

Nova Scotia.

Ontario.

Prince Edward Island.

Quebec.

The North-west Territories.

Provisional names have been given to the Territories chiefly for convenience in postal arrangements. These are:

Alberta.

Assiniboia.

Athabasca.

Franklin.

Keewatin.

Mackenzie

Saskatchewan;

Ungava.

Yukon.

6. The Dominion of Canada has an area of 3,456,383 square miles of which 3,315,647 are land surface and 140,736 water surface.

It is about 3,500 miles from east to west and 1,400 miles from north to south. It comprises the whole of the northern half of North America, with the exception, on the west, of Alaska and on the east, of Labrador, which latter is under the jurisdiction of Newfoundland, this Colony not yet having entered the Confederation.

7. Canada is bounded on the north by the Arctic Ocean; on the west by Alaska and the Pacific Ocean; on the east by the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Labrador, and on the south by the Atlantic Ocean and the United States of North America. latter boundary, starting from the Atlantic seaboard, commences at the mouth of the St. Croix River, which empties into the Bay of Fundy, then follows this river and Lake Chiputnecook and passes due north until it strikes the St. John River; thence by that river and one of its western branches it reaches the watershed between the St. Lawrence River and the Atlantic, which it follows by a tortuous south-westerly course to the 45th parallel of North latitude in longitude 71° 30" west; thence by this parallel it passes westward to the St. Lawrence River and along midchannel of that river and of the Lakes Ontario, Erie, Huron and the main portion of Lake Superior to the mouth of Pigeon River; thence by it and Rainy River it gains the northwest angle of the Lake of the Woods; thence it follows the 49th parallel to the Gulf of Georgia and thence passes by the Haro Straits and the Straits of Fuca to the Pacific Ocean. The length of this frontier line is 3,000 geographical miles, 1,400 miles being a water line by river, lake, and sea, and 1,600 miles being a boundary by land.

In addition to this boundary between Canada and the United States, there is the boundary between Canada and Alaska (belonging to the United States by purchase from Russia in 1867). This

line is in process of delimitation by joint commission.

8. The following are the areas of the several provinces and districts of the Dominion, together with the dates of their creation or admission into the Confederation:—

Provinces and	Date of	Statute or Order		Area.	
Districts.	Organisation or Admission.	in Council.	Water.	Land.	Total.
Original Confedera- tion— Ontario			Sq. Miles. 2,350	Sq. Miles. 219,650	Sq. Miles 222,000
Quebec	July 1st, 1867 {	Act Imperial Parlia-	1,400	227,500	228,900
Nova Scotia -	3 uly 1st, 1867 {	ment and Imperial Order in Council.	50	20,550	20,600
New Brunswick -			100	28,100	28,200
Provinces admitted—					
Manitoba	July 15th, 1870 -	Imperial O.C. Act Federal Parliament, Ch. 3, Acts of 1870 and B.N.A. Act, 1871.	9,890	64,066	73,956
British Columbia -	July 20th, 1871 •	Imperial O.C. 16th May 1371, on address of the Legislature of B.C. and address of Federal Parlia- ment, session of 1871.	1,000	382,300	383,300
Prince Edward Island.	July 1st, 1873 -	Act Federal Parliament, 23rd May 1873, and Imperial O.C., 24th June 1873.		2,000	2,000

Provinces and	Date of	Statute or Order		Area.	
Districts.	Organisation or Admission.	in Council.	Water.	Land.	Total.
Districts created— Keewatin	April 12th, 1876	Act Federal Parliament, Chap. 21, 1876.	Sq. Miles. 15,000	Sq. Miles. 267,000	Sq. Miles 282,000
Assiniboia Saskatchewan - Alberta Athabasca Arctic Archipelago	May 17th, 1882 { Sept. 1st, 1880 -	Minute of Canadian Privy Council con- curred in by Federal Parliament, May 17, 1882. Imperial Order in Council, 1st Sept. 1880.	1,001 6,000 745 1,200	88,534 101,092 105,355 103,300	89,535 107,092 106,100 104,500
Ungava Franklin Mackenzie Yukon	Oct. 2nd, 1895 -	Order in Council P.C. of Canada.	54,600	1,706,200	1,760,800
Great lakes and rivers			47,400	-	47,000
Total	•		140,736	3,315,647	3,456,383

9. The principal physical features of Canada are the Rocky Mountains and the Laurentian range, the plains of the Northwest Territories, the great inland lakes and Hudson Bay, and the Bay of Fundy.

10. The great inland lakes, five in number, form, with their connecting rivers, a complete system of navigation from the head of Lake Superior to the Atlantic Ocean, a distance of 2,384 miles.

They cover an area of about 100,000 square miles.

11. Other lakes of large size are Great Bear, 11,200 square miles; Great Slave, 10,100 square miles; Winnipeg, 9,400 square miles; Athabasca, 4,400 square miles.

12. The principal mountains are the Rocky Mountains in the west, extending from the Arctic Ocean to the United States; they contain the highest points in the Dominion, among the chief being Mount Hooker, 16,760 feet; Mount Brown, 16,000 feet, and Mount Murchison, 15,700 feet.

13. The principal rivers are the St. Lawrence (with its tributaries, the Ottawa, the St. Maurice, the Richelieu, and the Saguenay), the St. John, the Restigouche, and the Miramichi rivers flowing into the Atlantic Ocean; the Mackenzie, Coppermine, and Great Fish rivers emptying into the Arctic Ocean; the Saskatchewan and Red, the Nelson, Churchill and Albany rivers flowing into Hudson Bay; the Fraser and the Columbia emptying into the Pacific Ocean.

14. Hudson Bay is a large inland sea having an area of 350,000 Including its two arms it has an extreme length square miles. north and south of about 1,300 miles, and a width across the Bay

proper of about 600 miles.

15. The Bay of Fundy, 170 miles long and from 30 to 50 miles wide, nearly separates Nova Scotia from New Brunswick, the connecting Isthmus of Chignecto being about 15 miles wide.

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- 16. The principal islands in Canada are Baffin's Land, Prince Albert land (which are the principal islands in the new district of Franklin) Vancouver and Queen Charlotte Islands in British Columbia; Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton Island and Anticosti in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.
- 17. The climate varies greatly. The average mean temperature is in Prince Edward Island, summer 61.9 degrees F. and 19.5 in winter; New Brunswick, summer 60 degrees and winter 19.0; Nova Scotia, summer 65.2 and winter 25.0; Quebec, 58.3 summer and 15 winter; Ontario, 63.0 summer and 19.8 winter; Manitoba 60.1 summer and 0.8 winter; British Columbia, summer 61, and winter 32.4.

The extremes of mean temperature in 1894 were:

		Maximum.	Minimum
Ontario		Degrees. 52.62	Degrees. 32.66
Quebec		43.83	32.79
Nova Scotia -	-	44.95	40.84
New Brunswick -	-	42.92	35.87
Manitoba -		36.55	29.90
British Columbia		48.79	32.60
Prince Edward Island		40.98	_
The Territories -	-	41.67	36.88

The number of hours of bright sunshine in 1894 in specified places was:—Esquimalt, Vancouver Island, 1,675 hours out of a possible 4,466 hours; Winnipeg, 2,180 hours out of a possible 4,356; Fredericton, 2,055 hours out of a possible 4,474; Toronto, 2,017 hours out of a possible 4,474.

Ye	ear.		Ont	ario.	Que	bec.	Nova	Scotia.	Bruns		P. E. 1	Island.	Mani	toba.	Brit Colum			.W.
			Rain.	Snow.	Rain.	Snow.	Rain.	Snow.	Rain.	Snow.	Rain.	Snow.	Rain.	Snow.	Rain.	Snow.	Rain.	Snow
			Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.
1874		-	19.40	75.0	25.93	107.1	36.95	86.5	26.81	107.1	39.53	117.1	13.74	62.6	11.49	43.0	_	-
1875	-	-	21.91	97.5	30.03	123.0	30.61	104.6	32.53	126.6	29.86	136.0	12.19	41.6	21.93	19.3		_
1876	-	-	23.10	91.4	25.77	124.3	35.09	87.6	31.21	106.0	26.13	105.7	19.89	66.8	14.20	9.5	-	-
1877	-	-	22.16	52.3	23.52	92.3	38.36	67.8	31.03	87.3	31.95	89.7	19.17	20.9	31.48	5.4	-	-
1878	-	-	34.14	60.4	29.62	96.5	43.82	30.3	34.16	87.4	40.15	78.3	21.22	27.6	24.47	11.8	-	-
1879	-	-	21.68	87.7	24.50	113 9	27.70	113.1	32.46	115.2	24.92	152 · 4	21.01	41.2	37.80	60.8	_	-
1880	- 1	-	27.23	66.3	24.08	103.9	33.94	94.7	26.50	92.3	21.88	132.0	19.62	34.6	26.98	73.2	-	-
1881	-	-	22.63	64.0	23.62	86.4	32.59	77.2	35.36	77.3	31.12	116.4	13.63	63.8	33.64	33.64	-	-
1882		-	22.70	73.5	26.00	107.4	35.37	115.2	29.69	139.0	28.07	169.2	13.62	61.4	21.24	31.3	-	-
1883	-	•	28.30	91.5	24.54	117.7	36.82	87.2	28.27	95.6	27.59	110.3	13.13	34.1	14.06	29.0	-	-
1884		-	23.37	91.6	26.12	130.3	41.73	79.1	38.82	89.5	38.83	75.0	18.09	45.2	14.19	17.8	-	-
1885	•	•	29.70	91.4	24.44	137.0	38.27	95.7	33.00	118.3	29.49	102.5	11.76	31.5	19.49	18.7		-
1886	-	-	24.76	90.4	24.98	121.3	35.05	49.3	30.92	102.1	32.92	60.7	9.01	28.2	33.31	34.7	1.5	
1887	•	-	19.81	85.1	21.36	147.9	39.07	58.5	32.85	128.9	33.73	96.1	13.33	45.5	48.12	33.5	-	
1888	•	-	22.82	59.0	27.35	155.2	41.11	60.6	40.44	105.5	31.66	49.4	11.43	37·9 37·5	43.53	56.4	C.00	-
1889	•	•	24.58	78.5	26.99	105.5	34.29	35.7	30.25	102.3	41.26	85.4	17.92	30.8	33·60 42·32	27.2	6.02	32
1890		•	28·62 27·09	66.4	26.52	96.3	40.66	46.8	34.86	83.7	29.96	62.2	15.54	46.5	45.56	41.9	12.49	36
1891	•		26.47	64.7	23.46	85.9	43.42	61.4	32.99	67.9	35.07	50.5	13.07	52.8	41.26	98.0	12.91	33
1892	-		25.59	70.6	26.02	112.1	43.42	81.8	28.89	109.0	29.82	92.6	12.84	54.4	50.58	70.3		44
1893 1894	-	-	23.39	55.1	23.84 22.39	84.8	29.31	80.3	23.74	103.3	28.65	105.8	12.62	47.9	41.92	70.3	8·54 9·24	46 41

^{*} Any average rain or snow for British Columbia is misleading. The various parts of the province seem to have an amount of precipitation dependent on the position of the particular locality. As far as can be ascertained the following division may convey a somewhat definite idea:—

		Rain.	Snow.	Total.			Rain.	Snow.	Total.
Coast South Interior - North Interior -	:	Ins. 56:56 6:06 18:67	Ins. 34.8 26.2 134.2	Ins. 60.04 8.68 32.09	Vancouver Island North Part of Coast	-	Ins. 32:43 99:98	Ins. 22.2 51.8	Ins. 34.65 105.16

18. By the Treaty of Utrecht (1713) and the Treaty of Paris (1763) all the country comprised in the Dominion of Canada as

at present constituted became part of the British Empire.

19. Representative institutions were granted by the British Government to Nova Scotia in 1758, to Prince Edward Island in 1770, to New Brunswick in 1785. Upper and Lower Canada were separated in 1791, each province receiving a Legislature. The Imperial Act creating the two provinces contained the germ of responsible government which was brought into active exercise in 1841 when the two provinces were reunited. Responsible government was definitely established in the Province of Canada in 1847. It was granted by the Imperial Parliament to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in 1848, to Prince Edward Island in 1851, and to British Columbia in 1871.

- 20. The North-west Territories were governed at first under the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba; then by a Lieutenant-Governor and Council nominated by the Dominion Government (Act 1880); then by a Lieutenant-Governor and Council part elected and part nominated; then in 1888 by a Lieutenant-Governor and elective assembly. In the session of 1890 the Federal Parliament provided for the adoption of responsible government.
- 21. The system of government established in Canada under the Union Act of 1867 is a Federal Union (the first of the kind in the British Empire), having a general or central government controlling matters essential to the general development, the permanency and the unity of the whole Dominion, and a number of local or provincial governments having the control and management of certain matters naturally and conveniently falling within their defined jurisdiction, while each government is administered in accordance with the British system of parliamentary institutions.
- 22. The chief executive government and authority is vested in the Queen, in whom is also vested the chief command of the militia and of all naval and military forces in Canada. Her Majesty is represented by a Governor-General, appointed by the Queen in Council but paid by Canada.

23. The Parliament of Canada consists of, 1st, the Queen, 2nd. an Upper House called the Senate, and 3rd., a Lower House called the House of Commons.

24. The Governor General governs under the advice of a council or Ministry known as the Privy Council of Canada, which

is responsible to the Parliament.

- 25. The Senate, as at present constituted, consists of 81 members, 24 each from Ontario and Quebec, 10 each from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, four each from Prince Edward Island and Manitoba, three from British Columbia and two from the North-west Territories.
 - 26. The House of Commons, which is elected by the people for term of five years, consists of 213 members.

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This number is fixed under the provisions of the Act of Confederation, and the representation is arranged, after each decennial census, by Act of Parliament, the basis being that the Province of Quebec is always to have 65 representatives, and each of the other provinces such a number as will give the same proportion of representatives to its population as the number 65 bears to the population of Quebec as ascertained by the census. British Columbia, by the terms of the agreement made between the Dominion and the province prior to the Union, is never to have less than six members.

The number of representatives and the population to each member are as under:—

Province.		Number of Representatives.	Population to each Member.
Ontario	-	92	22,982
Quebec		65	22,900
Nova Scotia		20	22,520
New Brunswick -	-	14	22,947
Prince Edward Island		5	21,815
Manitoba		7	21,786
British Columbia -	-	6	16,269
North-west Territories		4	16,700
		213	22,688

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27. In addition to those of age and citizenship, the further qualifications of electors are set forth in the following statement:—

Qualification of Voters.

Title of Voter.	Occupation of Premises or Residence in the Electoral District.	Value.		
Real Property Franchise. (1.) Owner— (a.) In his own right - (b.) In right of wife - (c.) His wife owner -	Ownership prior to or at the date of the revision of the voters' lists.	Cities, \$300; towns, \$200 other places, \$150.		
(2.) Occupant— (a.) In his own right - (b.) In right of wife - (c.) His wife occupant-				

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CANADA. 1895. Occupation of Premises or Title of Voter. Residence Value. in the Electoral District. Farm or other real pro-Both occupation and residence for one year next perty is equally divided before:-(1) The date of among the father and (3.) Farmer's sonhis being placed upon the sons, or if mother owner (a.) Father owner voters' list; or (2) The among the sons sufficient (b.) Mother owner date of the application according to above values for the placing of his name on the list of voters. to give each a vote. (4.) Owner's son-(a.) Father owner (b.) Mother owner (5.) Tenant. (6.) Tenant, farmer's \$2 monthly, or \$5 quarterly, or \$12 half son-(a.) Father tenant yearly, or \$20 yearly. (b.) Mother tenant (7.) Fisherman (owner) Prior to or at the date of \$150 land, boats, and the revision of the voters fishing tackle. lists. (8.) Indian Possessed of land on a reserve with improvements valued at \$150 and upwards, and those outside of reserve on same conditions as white. (9.) Income franchise Prior to or at the date of the revision of the voters' list and one year's residence in Canada. (a.) Income \$300 a year. (b.) Annuitant -\$100 a year.

Persons specially disqualified are (1) aliens not naturalised, (2) convicts, (3) lunatics, (4) judges of the various courts, (5) revising and returning officers and election clerks, counsel, agents and attorneys, and clerks employed either before or during the election and who have received or expect to receive any sum of money, fee, office, place, or employment from any candidate. (These are disqualified from voting in the district in which they have been so engaged, but not elsewhere.) (6) Indians outside of the four original provinces of the Dominion, (7) Mongolians or Chinese.

Voting in elections is by ballot. The North-west Territories, previously to 1894, had open voting; chap. 15 of Acts of 1894 changed that mode to the one adopted in all the other provinces.

No property qualification is demanded from the member of the Commons, nor is he limited to a residence in the district for which he is elected.

Electors having votes in different electoral districts can exercise their privilege in one or all.

General elections are simultaneous throughout the Dominion of Canada.

28. The number of voters on the voters' lists in different years is as under:—

Canada.

Year.		Voters on	Incr	Proportion	
1 62	r.	Electoral List.	Number.	Per Cent.	to Population.
1887 -		993,914	180,012	22.40	21.49
1891 -	-	1,132,201	138,287	13.81	23.43
1895 -	-	1,353,735	221,498	19.57	27.04

According to provinces the number of voters on the lists in the years named was:—

NUMBER of VOTERS on the Electoral Lists by Provinces.

	-	Ontario.	Quebec.	Nova Scotia.	New Bruns- wick.	P. E. Island.	Mani- toba.	N.W.T.	British Columbia.
1882		406,096	229,067	65,885	54,003	*20,042	23,533		4,961
1887		495,514	272,564	79,077	68,294	21,462	39,051	10,315	7,637
1891		568,799	301,658	90,045	70,521	24,065	46,669	16,044	14,400
1895		650,021	351,076	111,124	91,697	25,245	65,684	20,878	38,010

^{*} No voters' lists in 1882; figures approximate.

29. The constitutions of the four provinces, viz., Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, which composed the Dominion in 1867 (when the Act of Confederation was passed), are the same in principle and details except that Ontario and New Brunswick have only one chamber, a legislative assembly, the other two being bicameral. Of the provinces since created or admitted each has only one house, an elective assembly.

In details the Dominion Parliament is closely copied.

The members of the Legislatures as well as members of

Parliament are paid an indemnity for attendance.

30. Municipal institutions are general. In the complete form as adopted by Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia, and other provinces, the whole municipal organisation comprises (a) the townships, being rural districts, of an area of eight or ten square miles, (b) villages with a population over 750, (c) towns with a population of over 2,000. Such of these as are comprised within a large district, called a county, constitute (d) the county municipality. (e) Cities are established from the growth of towns when their population exceeds 15,000.

The townships and villages are administered by a reeve and councillors; the towns by a mayor and councillors. The

governing body of the county municipality is composed of the reeves and deputy reeves of the townships, villages, and towns within the county, the presiding officer being styled warden.

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31. By the Act of Confederation it is provided that the Governor General shall appoint the judges of the superior, district, and county courts, the salaries, allowances, and pensions for whom are fixed by the Dominion Parliament.

The highest court in Canada is known as the Supreme Court of Canada. It has an appellate, civil and criminal jurisdiction in and throughout Canada. It has also appellate jurisdiction in controverted elections' cases, and may examine and report upon any private Bill or petition for the same. It has jurisdiction in cases of controversies between the Dominion and the provinces, and between the provinces themselves on condition that the Legislatures pass Acts agreeing to such jurisdiction. Under Act of the Canadian Parliament passed in 1891 the Governor in Council may refer to the Supreme Court for an opinion upon any matter which he deems advisable in the public interest,

The Court is presided over by a Chief Justice and 5 Puisne Judges. From its decision an appeal lies to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council of England except in criminal cases;

in these the judgment of the Supreme Court is final.

32. The following is a list of the Governors General of Canada since Confederation with the dates of their respective appointments:—

GOVERNORS GENERAL OF CANADA.

Name.	Date of Appointment.	Date of Assumption of Office.	
The Rt. Hon. Viscount Monck, G.C.M.G	June 1, 1867 -	July 1, 1867	
The Rt. Hon. Lord Lisgar, G.C.M.G. (Sir John Young).	Dec. 29, 1868 -	Feb. 2, 1869	
The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Dufferin, K.P., K.C.B., G.C.M.G.	May 22, 1872 -	June 25, 1872	
The Rt Hon. the Marquis of Lorne, K.T., G.C.M.G., P.C., &c.	Oct. 5, 1878 -	Nov. 25, 1878	
The Most Hon. the Marquis of Lansdowne, G.C.M.G., &c	Aug. 18, 1883 -	Oct. 23, 1883	
The Rt. Hon. Lord Stanley of Preston,* G.C.B.	May 1, 1888 -	June 11, 1888	
The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen, K.T., G.C.M.G.	May 22, 1893	Sept. 18, 1893	

^{*} Succeeded to the Earldom of Derby on the death of his brother, April 21st, 1893.

Since Confederation there have been three changes of Government and eight Ministries. There have been seven Premiers, the Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, Hon. Sir John Abbott, Right Hon. Sir John Thompson, Hon. Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Hon. Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., and Hon. Wilfrig Laurier.

33. The following table shows the number of sessions in each Parliament, the dates of opening and of closing, of dissolution, also the duration of each session and Parliament:—

Dominion Parliaments since 1867.

S. I. M. Barrier		Date of						
No. of Parliaments.	Session.	Opening.	Prorogation.	Dissolution.				
1st Parliament -	*1st -	Nov. 6, 1867 -	May 22, 1868 -	1				
	2nd -	April 15, 1869 -	June 22, 1869 -					
	3rd -	Feb. 15, 1870 -	May 12, 1870 -	July 8, 1872.				
	4th -	,, 15, 1871 -	April 14, 1871 -					
	5th -	April 11, 1872 -	June 14, 1872 -	J				
and Parliament -	†1st -	March 5, 1873 -	Aug. 13, 1873 -	}Jan. 2, 1874.				
	2nd -	Oct, 23, 1873	Nov. 7, 1873 -	3 441. 2, 10.2				
Brd Parliament	1st -	Mar, 26, 1874 -	May 26, 1874 -					
	2nd -	Feb. 4, 1875 -	April 8, 1875 -					
	3rd -	,, 10, 1876 -	" 12, 1876 -	Aug. 17, 1878.				
	4th -	,, 8, 1877 -	,, 28, 1877 -					
	5th -	" 7, 1878 -	May 10, 1878 -	j				
th Parliament	1st -	Feb. 13, 1879 -	May 15, 1879 -	1				
	2nd -	,, 12, 1880 -	,, 7, 1880 -	May 18, 1882,				
	3rd -	Dec. 9, 1880 -	Mar. 21, 1881 -	1 20, 1002,				
	4th -	Feb. 9, 1882 -	May 17, 1882 -)				
th Parliament	1st -	Feb. 8, 1883 -	May 25, 1883 -	7				
	2nd -	Jan. 17, 1884 -	April 19, 1884 -	Jan. 15, 1887.				
	3rd -	,, 29, 1885	July 20, 1885 -					
	4th -	Feb. 25, 1886 -	June 2, 1886 -	J				
6th Parliament	1st -	April 13, 1887 -	June 23, 1887 -	1				
	2nd -	Feb. 23, 1888 -	May 22, 1888 -	Feb. 3, 1891.				
	3rd -	Jan. 31, 1889 .	" 2, 1889 -					
	4th -	,, 16, 1890 -	,, 16, 1890 -	j				
7th Parliament	1st -	April 29, 1891 -	Sept. 30, 1891 -					
	2nd -	Feb. 25, 1892 -	July 9, 1892 -					
	3rd -	Jan. 26, 1893 -	April 1, 1893 -	April 24, 1896,				
	4th -	Mar. 15, 1894 -	July 23, 1894 -					
	5th -	April 18, 1895 -	,, 22, 1895 -					
	6th -	Jan. 2, 1896 -	April 23, 1896 -	j				
th Parliament	1st -	Aug. 1, 1896 .		Frank Inches				

^{*} Adjourned from 21st Dec. 1867 to 12th March 1868, to allow the Local Legislatures to meet, † Adjourned 23rd May till 13th August.

On the 27th April 1896 his Excellency sent for Hon. Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., and entrusted him with the work of forming the Seventh Ministry.

EIGHTH MINISTRY.

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34. The general elections were held on the 23rd June 1896, and resulted in the defeat of the Administration. The Eighth Ministry was formed soon after, and is as follows:—

Office.	Name.	Date of Appointment.
Premier and President of Privy Council.	Hon. Wilfrid Laurier -	July 11, 1896.
Secretary of State	Hon. Richd. W. Scott (Senator)	July 13, 1896.
Minister of Trade and Commerce	Hon. Sir Richard Cartwright, K.C.M.G.	**
Minister of Justice and Attorney General.	Hon. Sir Oliver Mowat, K.C.M.G.	"
Minister of Marine and Fisheries	Hon. Louis H. Davies	"
Minister of Militia and Defence -	Hon. Fred. W. Borden -	>>
Postmaster General	Hon. Wm. Mulock	"
Minister of Agriculture	Hon. Sydney A. Fisher -	"
Minister of Public Works -	Hon. Joseph I. Tarte	,,
Minister of Finance	Hon. Wm. S. Fielding -	>>
Minister of Railways and Canals	Hon. A. J. Blair	,,
Minister of Interior	- molt	
Without Portfolio	Hon. Richard R. Dobell -	,,
,, ,,	Hon. C. A. Geoffrion -	"
Not in C	Cabinet.	
Solicitor General	Hon Chas. Fitzpatrick -	,,
Controller of Customs	Hon Wm. Paterson -	27
Controller of Inland Revenue -	Hon. Sir Henri G. Joly de	"
Constitution of Intelligent Section 1	Lotbiniere, K.C.M.G.	77

The Ministries in the several Provinces are as follows:--

Ontario

Lieut.-Governor, Hon. George A. Kirkpatrick, P.C.

Executive Council, 1896

Quebec.

Lieut.-Governor, Hon. Sir Adolphe Chapleau, K.C.M.G.

Executive Council, 1896.

Premier and Commissioner of Public Works, Hon. E. J. Flynn.

Commissioner of Agriculture, Hon. Louis Beaubien. Commissioner of Crown Lands, Hon. G. A. Nantel. Attorney General, Hon. L. A. Pelletier. Treasurer, Hon. A. W. Atwater. President of the Council, Hon. P. Chapais. Provincial Secretary, Hon. M. F. Hackett.

Nova Scotia.

Lieut.-Governor, Hon. Malachy B. Daly.

Executive Council, 1896.

President of the Council and Provincial Secretary, Hon. Geo. H. Murray.

Attorney General and Commissioner of Crown Lands, Hon. J. W. Longley.

Commissioner of Works and Mines, Hon. C. E. Church. Without Portfolio, Hon. Thomas Johnson.

" Hon. A. H. Comeau.

" Hon. Angus McGillivray.

" Hon. Wm. Roche.

" Hon. Thos. Black.

New Brunswick.

Lieut.-Governor, Honourable John J. Fraser.

Executive Council, 1896.

Premier and Attorney General, Hon. Jas. Mitchell.
Provincial Secretary, Hon. L. J. Tweedie.
Chief Commissioner of Public Works, Hon. A. R. Emerson.
Surveyor General, Hon. Albert T. Dunn.
Solicitor General, Hon. A. S. White.
Without Portfolio, Hon. Chas. H. La Billois.

Manitoba.

Lieut.-Governor, Hon. Jas. C. Patterson, P.C.

Executive Council, 1896.

Premier, President of Council and Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Thos. Greenway.

Attorney General and Provincial Lands Comm., Hon. C. Sifton.

Minister of Public Works, Hon. R. Watson. Provincial Secretary, Hon. J. D. Cameron. Provincial Treasurer, Hon. D. H. McMillan.

British Columbia.

CANADA. 1895.

Lieut.-Governor, Hon. Edgar Dewdney, P.C.

Executive Council, 1896.

Premier, Minister of Finance and Agriculture, Hon. John H. Turner.

President of the Council (without Portfolio) Hon. C. E. Pooley.

Attorney-General, Hon. D. M. Eberts.

Provincial Secretary, Minister of Mines and Minister of Education, Hon. Jas. Baker,

Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, Hon. G. B. Martin.

Prince Edward Island.

Lieut.-Governor, Hon. Geo. W. Howlan.

Executive Council, 1896.

Premier and Attorney-General, Hon. Fred. Peters.

Commissioner of Public Works, Hon. J. R. McLean.

Commissioner of Crown and Public Lands, Hon Angus McMillan.

Without Portfolio, Hon. P. Sinclair.

- " Hon. D. Farquharson.
- " Hon. A. Laird.
- ,, Hon. Jas. Richards.
- " Hon. George Forbes.
- ,, ,, Hon. A. McLaughlin.

North-West Territories.

Lieut.-Governor, His Honour Charles Mackintosh.

Executive Committee.

F. W. Haultain.

Hillyard Mitchell.

John Ryerson Neff.

James H. Ross.

Population.

35. A census of Canada was taken on the 5th April 1891, on which date the census was also taken in the United Kingdom, Australasia, British India and other Colonies and Possessions of the British Empire

o 95450.

The following table gives the population of the several provinces according to the censuses of 1871, 1881, and 1891:—

Provinces.			1871.	1881.	Increase Per Cent.	1891.	Increase Per Cent.
Ontario		-	1,620,851	1,926,922	18.6	2,114,321	9.73
Quebec		-	1,191,516	1,359,027	14.0	1,488,535	9.23
Nova Scotia -		-	387,800	440,572	13.6	450,396	2.23
New Brunswick -		-	285,594	321,233	12.4	321,263	0.00
Manitoba		-	18,995	62,260	247.2	152,506	144.95
British Columbia -			36,247	49,459	36.4	98,173	98.49
Prince Edward Island		-	94,021	108,891	15.8	109,078	0.17
The Territories -			-	56,446		98,967	75:33
Total -	-	1.	3,635,024	4,324,810	18.97	4,833,239	11.76

36. The following gives the chief of the particulars gathered from the census of 1891, the results of that of 1881 being added for purposes of comparison:—

In each census group of 10,000 persons there were-

				1891.	1881.
				5,091	5,080
Males				4,909	4,920
Females -				249	280
Infants				1,000	1,060
Children, 1 year to 5 years	aniai			2,350	2,452
Boys and Girls 5 to 15 -			-	1,061	1,100
Youths and maidens, 15 to 20	,			1,781	1,760
Young men and women, 20 to 30				2,105	2,000
Middle-aged people, 30 to 50	-			1,325	1,210
Elderly persons, 50 and over				129	138
Ages not ascertained -	-			6,317	6,443
Single persons -	387	F. 10. 11	real F	3,286	3,191
Married persons -				397	366
Widowed persons -	-			3,313	3,347
Single males			-	3,004	3,096
" females -	7-7-1			1,647	1,597
Married males	•	7.77		1,639	1,594
" females -	Till are	a-United	Takes.	130	118
Widowers -	-			267	248
Widows	-			1,907	1,878
Families, number of	•			5.2	5.3
" persons in each	-	23.1		949	956
Bachelors, 20 and over -	-			684	689
Spinsters "	5 m			1,770	1,707
Houses, number of occupied	-			1.08	1.10
" families in each	-	-		5.6	5.8
" persons in each	7	AL TH		1,124	No record.
" number of 1 story	-	3.343 1.31	14.17	595	
,, ,, 2 ,,	-			44	"
. 3 ,,	-	-	STEAN- NE	7	"
,, 4 ,, and	over		130 300	THE STATE OF THE S	,,
French or Acadian -	- 411			2,907	2,993
Others	-	-	-	7,093	7,007
Canadian-born -		- 4	-	8,661	8,591
Born in other countries -	-	-	-	1,339	1,409

			1891.	1881.	1895.
Born in other parts of British E	mnire		1,014	1,106	
Born in Foreign countries	-		325	303	
Occupations:—			020	303	
Agricultural, mining and fis	hing	_	1,635	1,600	
Trade and transportation	_	- 111	386	249	
Manufacturing -	-	-	662	596	
Domestic and personal	-		509	173	
Professional -	- 100 - 1		131	122	
Non-productive classes	- 4.7.	-	110	475	
Farmers			1,521	1,518	
Fishermen	-	-	56	53	
Miners -	-		31	15	
Lumbermen -	-		27	19	
Religions:—					
Protestant	•		5,680	5,634	
Roman Catholic -	-	•	4,122	4,143	
Jews	•		13	6	
Pagans and not specified	-		185	217	
Presbyterians -	-		1,563	1,563	
Church of England -	K. K. W		1,337	1,335	
Methodists	•	-	1,754	1,718	
Baptists -	-	-	629	685	
Deaths in the year—Total	-		140	147	
Infants under 1 year	-		38	38	
Causes of death:—			The second second		
Disease:					
Zymotic -	-		33	_	
Parastic -	-		0.16		
Dietetic -	-		0.07	- 1	
Constitutional -	-		19		
Developmental	-		14	_	
Local	•	-	47		
Violent -		-	5		
Ill-defined and not spe	cinea	-	22	-	
Lung diseases -	•	-	12	8	
Diarrhœal -			8	2	
Phthisis -	•		15	15	
Old age		-	9	7	
Atrophy and debility Drowned -	3 CH		9	3	
Railway accidents			1·34 0·38	1.31	
No. of horses to each 10,000			2,982	0.22	
onttle			8,402	2,449	
cheen			5,201	7,942	
No. of persons can read			7,001	7,049	
write			6,573	No record.	
incono			28	"	
blind -	- 40		7	23	
doof muton			10	7	
city folk			2,878	12 2,110	
Country folk	-		7,122	7,890	
Men of working age, 15 to 55			2,693	2,677	
Women			2,639	2,546	
Life insurance, amount at risk, p	er 10.00	00 (1892)	\$562,549	\$238,833	
Lives exposed to risk, per 10,000			374	Ψ250,055	
Fire insurance, amount at risk, p	er 10.00	0 (1892)	\$1,655,559	\$1,068,743	
			105,569		
Savings in banks (Savings bank)	her To	100 (1094)	100.003	54,390	

^{37.} The following table gives the religions of the people by Provinces:—

Religions of the People, by Provinces, 1891.

Denomination.			Ontario.	Quebec.	Nova Scotia.	New Brunswick.	Manitoba.	British Columbia.	Prince Edward Island.	NW. Territories.	Canada.
Roman Catholics -			358,300	1,291,709	122,452	115,961	20,571	20,843	47,837	14,344	1,992,017
Church of England	-	-	385,999	75,472	64,410	43,095	30,852	23,619	6,646	15,966	646,059
Presbyterians -	-	-	452,712	52,659	108,520	40,530	38,977	15,260	32,988	12,547	754,193
Reformed Presbyterians	92000	-	142	12	415	96	20	3	9	11	708
Other Presbyterians	-	-	293	2	17	13	4	21	75	1845	425
Methodists -	- 10	-	647,518	30,416	54,731	35,386	28,210	14,193	13,301	8,110	839,815
Bible Christians -	-	-	5,889	99	420	159	188	97	294	37	7,183
Primitive Methodists	-	-	138	4	1		6	-		11	160
Other Methodists -	-	-	488	25	43	9	33	8	1		607
Baptists	-	-	96,969	6,854	72,731	54,960	15,829	2,960	5,749	1,397	257,449
Baptists, Free Will	-	-	7,869	1,127	10,377	24,674	278	130	512	149	45,116
Tunkers	-	-	1,209	10	14	15	5	8	4	9	1,274
Brethren	-		9,343	1,129	242	234	389	166	_	134	11,637
Lutherans	-	-	45,029	1,385	5,882	377	6,545	2,083	3	2,678	63,982
Congregational -	-	-	16,879	4,296	3,112	1,036	1,815	775	11	233	28,157
Disciples	-	-	9,106	20	1,728	1,003	261	62	531	52	12,763
Adventists	-	-	447	3,364	1,651	715	32	109	22	14	6,354
Unitarians -	-	-	776	554	115	147	74	79	10	22	1,777
Universalists -	-	-	1,094	1,426	326	259	5	45	24	7	3,186
Protestants -	-	-	2,938	2,342	47	22	1,874	286	9	4,735	12,253
Salvation Army -	-	-	10,320	297	1,377	993	399	298	180	85	13,949
Quakers	-	-	4,350	38	41	17	124	38	8	34	4,650
Jews	-	-	2,501	2,703	31	73	743	277	1	85	6,414
Other denominations	-	-	29,934	710	482	376	448	597	620	589	33,756
Not specified -	-	-	24,078	2,882	2,231	1,163	4,824	16,216	243	37,718	89,355
Totals	-	-	2,114,321	1,488,535	450,396	321,263	152,506	98,173	109,078	98,967	4,833,239

38. The degree to which intermingling of the people has taken place is seen in the following:-

		Born.						
Provinces.		In the Province.	In other Provinces.	In other British Possessions.	In Foreign Countries.			
British Columbia		36,701	20,150	21,109	20,213			
Manitoba -	-	50,648	57,369	28,294	16,195			
New Brunswick	-	286,926	12,228	16,744	5,365			
Nova Scotia -	-	415,221	8,669	21,689	4,817			
Ontario -	-	1,640,131	68,571	320,037	76,582			
Quebec	-	1,387,206	19,298	54,796	27,225			
Prince Edward Island	-	99,386	3,266	6,703	723			

39. Population of Cities and Towns in Canada of 5,000 Inhabitants and upwards, 1881 and 1891.

Cities and	Towns.		1881.	1891.	Increase o	r Decrease.
				1031.	Number.	Per Cent
Montreal	isle:	1000	155,237	*216,650	61,413	39.5
Toronto	-		96,196	*181,220	85,024	88.4
Quebec -	- 170	-	62,446	63,090	644	1.0
Hamilton	- 4		35,960	*48,980	13,020	36.2
Ottawa	-	-	31,307	*44,154	12,847	41.0
St. John	-	-	41,353	*39,179	-2,174	-5.2
Halifax -	-		36,100	†38,556	2,456	6.8
London -	***	-	26,266	*31,977	5,711	21.7
Winnipeg	-	-	7,985	25,642	17,657	221.1
Kingston	-	-	14,091	19,264	5,173	36.7
Victoria, B.C.	42	-	5,925	16,841	10,916	184.2
Vancouver, B.	C.		-	13,685	13,685	
St. Henri	-	-	6,415	13,415	7,000	109 · 1
Brantford	-	-	9,616	12,753	3,137	32.6
Charlottetown	- 100	-	11,485	11,374	-111	-0.9
Hull -	-	-	6,890	11,265	4,375	63.5
Guelph -	-	-	9,890	10,539	649	6.5
St. Thomas	-		8,367	10,370	2,003	23.9
Windsor	-	-	6,561	10,322	3,761	57.3
Sherbrooke	-	-	7,227	10,110	2,883	39.9
Belleville	-	-	9,516	9,914	398	4.2
Peterboro'	-	- L	6,812	9,717	2,905	42.6
Stratford	-	-	8,239	9,501	1,262	15.3
Ste. Cunégonde	е	-	4,849	9,293	4,444	91.7
St. Catharines	-	-	9,631	9,170	-461	-4.7
Chatham, O.	-	-	7,873	9,052	1,179	15.0
Brockville	-	-	7,609	8,793	1,184	15.5
Moncton	-	-	5,032	8,765	3,733	74.2
Woodstock, O.	-	-	5,373	8,612	3,239	60.3

^{*} The population in the 1881 column includes the same boundaries as in the 1891 column and consequently differs in these cases where annexations have taken place since 1881 from the population as given by 1881.

† The Imperial troops stationed in Halifax, and their families (when on the strength of the regiment) are not included in these figures.

Cities and Towns.		1881.	1001	Increase or Decrease.			
Ordes and Te	, wills.	1881. 1891.		Number.	Per Cent.		
Three Rivers -	-	8,670	8,334	-336	-3.8		
Galt	Track-	5,187	7,535	2,348	45.2		
Owen Sound -	-	4,426	7,497	3,071	69.4		
Berlin	-	4,054	7,425	3,371	83.1		
Lévis	-	7,597	7,301	-296	-3.9		
St. Hyacinthe -	-	5,321	7,016	1,695	31.9		
Cornwall -	-	4,468	6,805	2,337	52.3		
Sarnia	-	3,874	6,693	2,819	72.7		
Sorel	-	5,791	6,669	878	15.2		
New Westminster	r -	1,500	6,641	5,141	342 · 7		
Fredericton -	-	6,218	6,502	284	4.5		
Yarmouth -	-	3,485	6,089	2,604	74.7		
Lindsay -	-	5,080	6,081	1,001	19.7		
Barrie	-	4,854	5,550	696	14.3		
Valleyfield -	-	3,906	5,516	1,610	41.2		
Truro -	-	3,461	5,102	1,641	47.4		
Port Hope -	-	5,581	5,042	-539	-9.6		

NATURAL RESOURCES.

40. These are lands, forests, fisheries and minerals.

There is a very large area of land throughout Canada available for settlement either for agricultural or for mining purposes, the disposition of which is in the hands of the Dominion Government and of the several Provincial Governments. These lands are known as Crown Lands.

The Hudson's Bay Company, the Canadian Pacific Company and some other railway companies have received large grants of land which are open for settlement.

41. The total area set out for settlement, by the Dominion Government, which has control of the Dominion Lands situated in Manitoba, the North-West Territories and the Railway Belt in British Columbia, in each year since 1873, is as under:—

Area set out for Settlement.

Year.			Acres.	Number of Farms of 160 acres each		
Previous t	o June 1873		4,792,292	29,952		
In 1874 -	1 1	-	4,237,864	26,487		
1875 -	-	-	665,000	4,156		
1876		-	420,507	2,628		
1877 -		-	231,691	1,448		
1878 -		-	306,936	1,918		
1879 -		-	1,130,482	7,066		
1880 -			4,472,000	27,950		
1881 -	-	-	8,147,000	50,919		

Year	v. Ta	mail die 1	Acres.	Number of Farms of 160 acres each
1882 -	- 7	-	10,186,000	63,662
1883 -	-	-	27,234,000	170,212
1884 -	-	-	6,435,000	40,218
1885 -	-	-	391,680	2,448
1886 -	7.	-	1,379,010	8,620
1887 -	-	-	643,710	4,023
1888 -	1-	-	1,131,840	7,074
1889 -	-	-	516,968	3,231
1890 -	-	-	817,075	5,106
1891 -	-	-	76,560	476
1892 -	-	-	1,395,200	8,720
1893 -	-	-	2,928,640	18,304
1894 -	-	-	300,240	1,876
1895 -	•	-	406,240	2,539
Total		-	78,245,935	489,033

At the rate of five persons to a homestead of 160 acres, the surveyed lands would sustain an agricultural population of over 2,400,000 souls.

42. The following are the comparative figures for the past eight years of transactions in Dominion Lands. The pre-emption system was terminated on 1st January 1890.

	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Homesteads	Acres. 420,333	Acres. 696,050	Acres. 471,040	Acres. 563,680	Acres. 774,400	Acres. 650,720	Acres. 507,840	Acres. 383,040
Pre-emptions -	70,521	212,651	57,600	-	-	7 -	_	_
Sales	197,140	177,092	139,030	189,704	62,800	46,873	18,275	32,843

43. The total receipts on account of Dominion Lands under the various heads, from 1st July 1872 to 30th June 1895, have been:—

					\$
Homestead fees	- 1	-	-	-	645,810
Pre-emption			-	-	206,741
Sales -	-		-	-	5,838,490
Timber grazing	and min	eral	-	-	1,656,509
Colonisation	-1-	-	-	-	887,922
Miscellaneous		-	-	-	528,236
					9,763,702
	L	ess refunds	-	-	202,957
					9,560,951

Fuller information can be obtained at the office of the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London S.W., England.

44. The area of forest and woodland in Canada cannot be definitely stated for want of adequate data at present. The following approximate estimate is based upon returns of the Provincial and Dominion Governments, reports of surveyors of the Crown Lands and other departments, the Geological Survey and other trustworthy sources:—

Provinc	es.			Total Area.	Ferest and Woodland.	Woodland	
				Sq. Miles.	Sq. Miles.	Per Cent.	
Ontario -	-	-	-	219,650	102,118	46.49	
Quebec -		-	-	227,500	116,521	51.22	
New Brunswick			-	28,100	14,766	52.55	
Nova Scotia -	-	-		20,550	6,464	31.45	
Prince Edward Island				2,000	797	39.85	
Manitoba -				64,066	25,626	40.00	
British Columbia	- 50	-		382,300	285,554	74.69	
Territories -		1.		2,371,481	696,952	29.39	
Total			-	2,315,647	1,248,798	37.66	

It must not be supposed that this area is all forest, much, though wooded, being covered with small trees.

45. Census.—Forest Products, 1890.

Timber.	Ontario.	Quebec.	New Brunswick.	Nova Scotia.	P. E. Island.	Manitoba.	British Columbia.	Territories.	Total Canada.
White pine, square - Cub. Ft.	6,884,808	1,665,231	414,727	202,938	1,550	550	19,000	2,440	9,191,24
Red " " - "	595,879	317,609	2,805	148,055	2,651	100	336,890	2,410	1,406,39
Oak, square ,,	1,765,544	68,863	1,412	26,226	400	32,035	600	2,110	1,895,080
Tamarack, square or sided ,,	562,728	2,595,980	266,320	19,600	1,400	189,508	16,333	13,265	3,665,13
Birch and maple ,, ,,	1,133,790	959,304	636,161	670,478	237,713	295	10,000	4,728	3,642,07
Elm ",",	2,686,725	166,781	430	1,040	1,880	6,334	_ ***	1,232	2,864,42
Black walnut ,, ,,	38,042	7,696					1		45,73
Other walnut ", ",	30,736	71,477	5,040	1,674			_		108,92
Hickory ",	316,977	49,786		9,192	3,500	700	6,300	The second	386,45
All other ", ",	4,811,878	11,437,966	883,679	2,206,675	338,503	323,110	740,905	763,488	21,506,20
Pine logs - Census standard,	10,293,171	2,560,298	532,017	402,021	20,144	613	1,194,156	88,138	15,090,52
opruce and other 7 100 ft BM	H FALLS HALL						1,101,100	00,100	
10gs]	11,660,690	10,757,148	4,619,901	4,793,477	469,310	270,384	908,053	59,594	33,538,55
Spars and masts No.	40,685	50,498	187,965	22,836	2,318	200	18,638		323,14
Staves M.	29,550	44,628	8,026	9,103	788	2	163		92,26
Lathwood Cords.	97,684	172,594	11,471	9,598	1,011	716	313	25	293,41
Canbark ,,	110,124	148,851	56,268	12,574	610	1,040	320	23	329,81
Firewood "	5,192,399	3,380,389	616,049	703,809	160,532	274,992	157,003	69,988	10,555,16
Fence Posts No.	6,528,980	10,670,437	1,494,484	2,541,881	2,120,486	1,508,353	2,284,660	1,213,974	28,363,25
Railway ties ,,	4,813,666	2,404,593	1,483,334	317,222	42,130	473,672	940,690	209,600	10,684,90
Telegraph posts ,,	220,818	97,265	12,634	40,777	10	305	22,002	50	393,86
Pulpwood Cords.	114,959	131,191	11,372	3,334	24		267		261,15
hingles M.	610,374	175,625	34,359	88,267	19,169	548	10,386	1,008	939,73

46. The value of forest products consumed in Canada per capita may be estimated approximately. The value of Canada's forest products, calculated from the Census returns of 1891, was \$80,071,415. For the fiscal year 1890-1 the imports of wood articles amounted to \$3,132,516, while for the same period the exports were \$27,707,547, leaving for consumption in Canada \$55,996,384, or a value of \$15.59 per head. With respect to the quantity used, the census returns show an aggregate of 2,045,073,072 cubic feet as the total cut of the year.

About 30 per cent. of this is exported leaving 1,431,551,150.

This is equal to 296.2 cubic feet per head of population.

Value of Forest Products exported.

		189	93.	18	94.	18	95.
Articles.		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value
From the Forest.			7				
Bark, for tanning -		Cords. 41,872 M. feet.	\$ 205,495	Cords. 30,602 M. feet.	\$ 148,078	Cords. 41,778 M. feet.	193,72
Basswood, butternut	and	782	25,366	804	28,080	2,473	54,51
hickory. Cedar for shingle bolts -		Cords.	64	Cords. 355	900	Cords. 8,474	8,54
Firewood		181,417	354,429	149,078	287,036	115,566	222,18
Hop, telegraph and other	poles	_	114,030	_	71,789		39,78
Knees and futtocks -		Pieces. 22,195	14,056	Pieces. 16,510	11,673	Pieces. 12,180	7,65
		Cords.		Cords.		Cords.	
Lathwood		2,590 M. feet.	6,491	1,210 M. feet.	2,685	M. feet.	1,45
Logs, elm		33,615	219,065	23,560	152,221	34,141	205,08
" hemlock		6,042	27,496	5,233	19,769	2,260	9,14
" oak		1,347	21,030	795	16,397	199	3,7
" pine		127,084	1,057,005	279,707	2,495,354	212,251	1,860,7
" spruce		21,103	123,254	17,930	107,282	25,095	90,9
" all other		9,422 Pieces.	69,307	13,321 Pieces.	106,229	9,786 Pieces.	63,7
Masts and spars		1,805	7,933	4,089	7,138	1,979	3,5
Piles and pile timber -	-	-	63,957	-	61,815	-	67,9
Posts, cedar, &c		Cords.	70,485	Cords.	65,717	Cords.	67,3
Shingle bolts		234	1,722	29	249	15	1
Sleepers and railway ties		Pieces. 1,410,701	214,892	Pieces. 891,254	131,765	Pieces. 881,143	130,2
Stave bolts		37,567	103,365	Cords. 31,403	86,296	Cords. 24,167	64,8
		Tons.		Tons.		Tons.	
Timber, square, ash -	1 5	4,956	57,471	5,897	70,543	4,192	47,5
" birch -	-	26,672	211,996	16,808	127,591	14,841	111,3
" elm -	- (-	14,367	190,362	10,478	140,367	12,239	159,0
" maple -	-	303	3,634	273	3,828	140	3,2
" oak -		28,805	508,638	25,338	570,675	17,991	396,2
" pine, red		8,044	78,130	6,849	74,458	3,568	31,8
" " whi	te -	97,656	1,368,971	109,312	1,568,835	70,263	1,037,6
" all other		2,560	32,172	4,938	34,245	2,923	37,2
Wood, for pulp		-	386,092		393,260	_	468,0
Other forest products -			55,985		85,909	_	129,8
Total from the fore	st -		5,592,893		6,870,184		5,517,3

27

Articles.	18	93.	18	94.	1895.		
Al divios.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
From the Factory.		\$		\$		\$	
Ashes	_	120,886	_	109,764	_	123,22	
Lumber, battens	_	3,095		5,152	_	5,92	
" deals, pine	St. Hun. 70,104	3,114,822	St. Hun. 65,654	2,751,069	St. Hun. 60,518	2,311,91	
" " spruce, &c	181,608	4,647,453	219,724	5,567,631	208,068	5,271,89	
" deal ends	12,190	295,478	16,614	484,324	16,670	464,20	
, laths, palings and pickets.	M. 310,354	506,827	M. 357,134	552,171	M. 360,224	492,94	
" planks and boards -	M. feet. 854,446	9,640,683	M. feet. 1,134,231	7,947,001	M. feet. 667,723	7,407,58	
" joists	5,596	48,185	2,215	17,052	1,018	7,58	
" scantling	13,360	108,538	20,328	170,386	21,609	177,1	
" staves and headings -	-	606,571		641,077	_	638,2	
" other lumber	-	799,454	1-	415,655	-	632,1	
Shingles •	M. 371,377	755,813	M. 388,586	754,743	M. 360,935	687,3	
Shooks, box	No. 730,603	75,824	No. 787,619	70,399	-	121,4	
" other	_	43,388	- L	34,840	-	32,1	
Charcoal	-	48,700	10-	33,191	-	21,85	
Extract hemlock bark -	Brls. 6,398	108,885	Brls. 9,254	127,692	Brls. 7,796	115,89	
Maple sugar	Lbs. 738,514	50,151	Lbs. 452,411	29,844	Lbs. 142,725	9,0	
Wood, barrels, empty	No. 55,140	16,928	No. 24,767	8,127	No. 38,131	9,0	
" household furniture -	W - 1	174,621	_	132,650	A	97,0	
" doors, sashes and blinds -	-	130,349	-	158,196	-	139,4	
, matches and match- splints.	-	204,410	-	216,035	-	172,1	
" moulding and other house furnishings.	-	22,883	-	35,481	<u></u>	26,3	
" pails and other hollow ware.	-	10,901	-	5,614	-	7,09	
" spool wood and spools -		82,863	FQ-Free	66,484	_	75,12	
" wood pulp	-	455,893		547,217	_	590,87	
" other manufactures -	-	182,142	_	178,395	-	172,6	
Total from the factory -	_	22,255,743	-	21,060,190		19,982,76	
From the Shipyard.	Tons.		Tons.		No. 31.		
thips sold to other countries, No. 42.	31,317	363,916	21,960	243,429	Tons. 16,567	172,56	
Grand total, forest products	_	28,212,552	1-	28,173,813	_	25,672,67	

47. Our chief customers for these exports are the United Kingdom and the United States. They took from us as follows in 1893, 1894, and 1895:—

Countries.		The Forest.	The Factory.	The Shipyard.	Total.
1893.		\$	\$	\$	\$
United Kingdom		3,094,593	11,612,166		14,606,759
United States -	N.	2,469,436	8,841,393	115,633	11,426,462
Other countries		28,864	1,802,184	248,283	2,179,331
Total -		5,592,893	21,255,743	363,916	28,212,552
1894.					
United Kingdom	-	2,722,605	9,603,621	6,500	12,332,726
United States -	-	4,115,832	9,788,354	35,300	13,903,586
Other countries	-	31,747	1,668,215	201,629	1,937,491
Total -	-	6,870,184	21,060,190	243,429	28,173,813
1895.	4				
United Kingdom		1,543,224	8,999,165	6,635	10,549,024
United States -	-	3,959,305	9,512,895	10,000	13,482,200
Other countries	-1/2	14,813	1,470,706	155,928	1,641,447
Total -	-	5,517,342	19,982,766	172,563	25,672,671

48. The total amount of hewn wood imported by the United Kingdom in 1895 from all countries was 2,278,548 loads of 50 cubic feet, against 2,338,036 loads in 1894, 2,126,883 loads in 1893 and 2,469,139 loads in 1892. Of this quantity, 142,738 loads were from Canada in 1895, 118,148 loads in 1894, 136,364 loads in 1893 and 194,654 loads in 1892. The total import of sawn-wood by the United Kingdom was as follows: 1895, 5,065,798 loads; 1894, 5,446,265 loads; 1893, 4,761,717 loads; 1892, 5,090,798 loads; of which 1,167,947 loads in 1895, 1,263,668 loads in 1894, 1,119,409 loads in 1893 and 1,211,696 loads in 1892 were from Canada, or 23.0 per cent., 23.2 per cent., 23.5 per cent. and 23.8 per cent. respectively.

49. A marked feature of the export to the United States is the great increase in the number of pine saw-logs they take from us. This may be seen by taking periods of four years:—

Pe	riod.		Feet B.M.	Value.	Yearly Average.	Value.
				\$		\$
1882-85			4,335,000	37,943	1,083,750	9,483
1886-89		-	20,526,000	171,856	5,131,500	42,964
1890-93	-	-	269,868,000	2,282,802	67,467,000	570,700
1894 -				-	277,947,000	2,359,951
1895 -		-	Se than to the		212,231,000	1,860,725

50. The wood-pulp industry with a rapid growth has attained large proportions. By the census of 1891 the produce of pulp wood was 261,155 cords, but as it was then recorded for the first time there can be no comparison with the previous decades. Pulp mills did not appear in the census of 1871; by that of 1881 the invested capital amounted to \$92,000, the wages to \$15,720 and the product to \$63,300; by the census of 1891 the invested capital had increased to \$2,900,907, the wages to \$292,099 and the value of the product to \$1,057,810.

51. There has been a similar great increase in the exports of wood for pulp. The article did not appear in the customs returns of 1889. In 1890 its export was valued at \$80,005, in 1891 at \$188,198, in 1892 at \$219,548, in 1893 at \$386,092, in 1894 at \$393,260 and in 1895 at \$468,009. The export of wood-pulp also made great strides, amounting in 1890 (its first appearance in the returns) to \$168,180, in 1891 to \$208,619, in 1892 to \$355,303, in 1893 to \$455,893, in 1894 to \$547,217, and in 1895 to

\$590,874.

The Government of Canada has issued a report on the forest wealth of Canada, prepared by Mr. George Johnson, Statistician, Department of Agriculture, copies of which may be obtained from the Queen's Printer, Ottawa, price 20 cents. The Provincial Government of Ontario has issued a report on the forests of that province.

AGRICULTURE.

52. According to the census of 1891, the area of improved lands in Canada was 28,537,242 acres, of which 19,904,826 acres were under crop. There were 464,462 acres in gardens and orchards and 15,284,788 acres in pasture. The increase in lands under crop in 1891 compared with 1881 was 4,792,542 acres, or over 30 per cent. Relatively to the whole area, the area under crop and pasture was about 10 per cent.

The ranching grounds of the North-West Territories in 1895

covered 904,187 acres.

CROPS.

53. The Census returns of 1891 give the following information for the Dominion:—

					1891.	1881.
					Bushels.	Bushels.
Wheat	-		-	-	42,144,779	32,350,269
Barley	-			\	17,148,198	16,844,868
Oats		-	-	-	82,515,413	70,493,131
Rye				-	1,328,322	2,097,180
Pease and beans -	2		NEXT BE	-	15,514,836	13,749,662
Buckwheat -			4.	-	4,886,122	4,901,147
Corn				-	10,675,886	9,025,142
Potatoes			1	-	52,653,704	55,268,227
Curnips and other ro	ots -		- 1		49,555,902	48,251,414
Grass and clover				-	340,650	324,317

CANADA. 1895. 215

					1891.	1881.
12 2 6 3 7 5 7 4 7 4				Nier d	Lbs.	Lbs.
Fruits, grapes, &c.			1000		68,864,181	45,957,458
Tobacco					4,277,936	2,527,962
Hops -	-	2 4.9		-	1,126,230	905,207
					Bushels.	Bushels.
Flax seed -	-			-	137,015	108,694

Only two of the provinces make an annual statement of their crops.

The following is a statement of the province of Ontario:-

	-			1895.	1894.	1882-95.
				Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Fall wheat -	_		-	14,155,282	16,512,106	17,806,963
Yield per acre		The Property	-	19.0	21.2	20.1
Spring wheat		of the last	-	3,472,543	3,367,854	7,724,774
Yield per acre		-	-	15.5	14.6	15.2
Barley			- 1	12,090,507	10,980,404	17,046,059
Yield per acre				25.3	22.6	25.5
Oats			-	84,697,566	70,172,516	61,594,192
Yield per acre		15	-	35.7	30.0	34.3
Rye			_	1,900,117	1,386,606	1,589,008
Yield per acre			3	15.8	15.4	16.0
Pease			-	15,568,103	14,022,888	14,095,782
Yield per acre	1			19.5	17.9	20.2
Buckwheat -	-		-	2,791,749	2,534,335	1,740,483
Yield per acre			-	20.6	17.4	19.8
Beans		4	-	1,494,179	827,514	586,847
Yield per acre			-	20.5	14.0	17.3
Potatoes				29,390,884	17,163,130	18,582,991
Yield per acre		20.36	-	159.2	102.6	118.5
Mangel-Wurzels	-		-	15,961,502	11,532,127	9,414,830
Yield per acre			- 1	464	417	438
Carrots -	-			4,581,373	3,716,140	3,692,128
Yield per acre			-	352	332	350
Turnips -			_	63,496,702	61,694,487	48,251,499
Yield per acre			-	418	418	418
Corn for husking			-	24,819,899	16,275,352	16,599,428
Yield per acre	412		-	81.9	60.9	68.5
Tield per dere			82	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Corn for silo and fod	der		-	1,775,654	1,049,765	1,205,963
Yield per acre	-		-	11.84	9.43	10.75
Hay and clover-		-		1,849,914	3,575,200	3,271,488
Yield per acre		AND A	118	•73	1.39	1.38
Tiota per aoro						

The following is the statement for the province of Manitoba:—
CROPS IN MANITOBA, 1892, 1893, 1894, and 1895.

Crops.	1892.	1893.	Average yield per Acre, 1893.	1894.	Average yield.	1895.	Average yield.
Wheat -	Bushels. 14,453,835	Bushels. 15,615,923	Bushels.	Bushels. 17,172,883	Bushels.	Bushels. 31,775,038	Bushels.
Oats	11,654,090	9,823,935	25.3	11,907,854	28.8	22,555,733	46.7
Barley -	2,831,676	2,547,653	22.1	2,981,716	24.2	5,645,036	36.7
Potatoes -	2,000,600	1,649,384	133.0	2,035,336	153.0	4,042,562	243.5

The wheat crop of Canada for 1895, partly estimated, is as follows:—

Bushels of 60 lbs.

CANADA. 1895.

				1	Dushels of oo ibs
Ontario				1-1	17,627,825
Quebec		1 - 2		-	1,568,289
Manitoba		11.	10-119	7 - A	31,775,038
Territories	(east)	-		-	5,000,000
New Brun		1-1-2			210,000
Prince Ed	ward Isl	and	1.000		113,373
Nova Scot	ia	-	4 - 1-1	-	165,806
British Co		- 10	-	-	383,300
	Tota	al		-	56,848,631
	Tota	al			56,848,631

The total exports and imports of wheat and wheat flour since 1876, by three year periods (average):—

-			Imports.	Exports.
			Bush.	Bush.
1876-7-8			7,427,027	9,064,948
1879-80-81	1 -	-	7,650,858	13,082,634
1882-3-4		-	5,611,425	8,927,698
1885-6-7		-	4,609,582	8,598,246
1888-9-90		-	4,103,107	4,921,110
1891-2-3	-	-	4,186,620	12,117,408
1894 -	-	-	5,185,240	16,341,489
1895 -	-	-	4,517,995	13,409,638

FARM STOCK.

54. The Census return for 1891 gives the following information:—

HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, and SWINE in CANADA, 1881 and 1891.

Horses.

	Over 3	Years.	Under	3 Years.	Total 1	Horses.	
Provinces.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	Increase.
Ontario	473,906	551,290	116,392	220,548	590,298	771,838	181,540
Quebec	225,006	259,997	48,846	84,293	273,852	344,290	70,438
Nova Scotia	46,044	52,210	11,123	12,837	57,167	65,047	7,880
New Brunswick -	43,957	46,115	9,018	13,658	52,975	59,773	6,798
Manitoba	14,504	61,926	2,235	24,809	16,739	86,735	69,996
British Columbia -	20,172	32,105	5,950	12,416	26,122	44,521	18,399
Prince Edward Island	25,182	25,674	6,153	11,718	31,335	37,392	6,057
The Territories	9,084	39,267	1,786	21,709	10,870	60,976	50,106
Canada	857,855	1,068,584	201,503	401,988	1,059,358	1,470,572	411,214

Cattle.

		Workin	ng Oxen.	Milch	Cows.		Horned tle.	Increase
Provinces.		1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	Decrease.
Ontario -	-	23,263	12,424	782,243	876,167	1,702,167	1,940,673	+ 238,506
Quebec -	-	49,237	45,676	490,977	549,544	949,333	969,312	+ 19,979
Nova Scotia -	-	33,275	28,424	137,639	141,684	325,603	324,772	- 831
New Brunswick	-	8,812	7,510	103,965	106,649	212,560	204,692	- 7,868
Manitoba -	-	12,269	19,199	20,355	82,712	60,281	230,696	+ 170,415
British Columbia	-	2,319	2,631	10,878	17,504	80,451	126,919	+ 46,468
Prince Edward Isla	nd	84	116	45,895	45,849	90,722	91,695	+ 973
The Territories		3,334	7,583	3,848	37,003	12,872	231,827	+ 218,955
Canada	-	132,593	, 123,563	1,595,800	1,857,112	3,433,989	4,120,586	+ 686,597

Sheep and Swine.

Provinces.		She	ep.	Increase	Sw	ine.	Increase
Frovinces.		1881.	1891.	Decrease.	1881.	1891.	Or Decrease.
Ontario		1,359,178	1,021,769	-337,409	700,922	1,121,396	+420,474
Quebec	-	889,333	730,286	-159,547	329,199	369,608	+ 40,409
Nova Scotia	-	377,801	331,492	- 46,309	47,256	48,048	+ 792
New Brunswick -	-	221,163	182,941	- 38,222	53,087	50,945	- 2,142
Manitoba	-	6,073	35,838	+ 29,765	17,358	54,177	+ 36,819
British Columbia -	-	27,788	49,163	+ 21,375	16,841	30,764	+ 13,923
Prince Edward Island	-	166,496	147,372	- 19,124	40,181	42,629	+ 2,448
Th Territories	-	346	64,920	+ 64,574	2,775	16,283	+ 13,508
Canada		3,048,678	2,563,781	-484,897	1,207,619	1,733,850	+526,231

55. The returns from the province of Ontario for 1895 give the following as the number of farm stock:—

	Farm	Stock.		Number.
Hor	ses -		-	647,696
Catt	tle -	No.	-	2,150,103
She	ер	•		2,022,735
Hog	ζs.			1,299,072

The yearly average exports of farm stock during 22 years 1874-95, with the exports of 1895, are as under:—

CANADA. 1895.

				Number.	Value.
Horses, average 22 years				13,800	\$ 1,522,000
,, 1895	-/-		•	14,744	1,312,676
Cattle, average 22 years	-		-	76,653	4,575,107
, 1895	-	-		93,802	7,120,823
Sheep, average 22 years			100 I	309,000	1,144,000
,, 1895			-	291,751	1,624,587

56. Provisions exported from Canada.

Produce of Canada by three year periods (average):—

	Q		Quantities.	Value.	Cost per 1,000 lbs	
N 1973			lbs.	\$	\$	
1867-8 -	•	-	74,312,230	8,639,220	11.62.5	
1879-81	-	-	84,805,170	8,611,680	10.15.4	
1882-4		7 -	98,690,013	11,526,355	11.68.0	
1885-7 -		-	113,472,658	11,183,816	9.85.6	
1888-90		-	121,727,727	12,400,718	10.18.7	
1891–3 -			156,948,655	15,538,557	9.90.0	
1894 -		-	209,638,105	21,292,733	11.57.0	
1895 -		-	212,047,499	20,547,850	9.69.0	

These provisions were exported to the United Kingdom in increasing proportion:—

					Per cent.
		-	-		81.86
	-	-	-	-	89.53
				-	78.24
-	-			_	80.62
				-	81.10
A SERVE	-		-	-	94.07
-		-		-	97.63
-			-	-	97.30
	-	-			

57. The following table from the Canadian returns gives the total imports for home consumption, and imports from Great o 95450.

CANADA. Britain and the United States into Canada, of agricultural produce in the year ended 30th June 1895:—

		Imports entered for Home Consumption.									
Articles.		Tot	al.	From Grea	t Britain.	From Unit	ed States.				
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.				
*Horses	Y	No. 1,486	\$ 46,304	No.	\$ 73	No. 1,484	\$ 46,221				
*Cattle		2,420	35,646	1	100	2,419	35,546				
*Sheep		42,724	59,990	_		42,724	59,990				
*Swine		_	1,488	_	8	-	1,463				
Other animals, n.e.s.			21,463	_	863		19,714				
Mutton		Lbs. 57,845	3,097	Lbs.		Lbs. 41,793	2,521				
Pork		3,206,959	209,053	_		3,206,759	209,045				
†Bacon and Hams		826,882	85,871	2,111	348	821,670	85,266				
		2,011,866	86,003	17,416	1,270	1,989,638	84,522				
Beef •		1,476,274	151,828	28,135	3,608	1,285,054	133,036				
Meats, all other -			14,756	3,119	314	184,131	14,192				
Lard		190,921		123,888	6,849	539,397	27,839				
Tallow -		665,055	34,751	120,000		009,001	1,771,641				
Hides			1,950,530	- 100.040	89,726	4 000 001					
Wool		7,750,050	1,129,389	1,169,943	217,803	4,602,301	650,684				
Butter		274,666	44,592	2,387	477	231,988	37,657				
Cheese	•	147,224	22,813	19,080	3,633	106,735	14,829				
Poultry	•	Doz.	8,543	Doz.	119	Doz.	7,791				
Eggs	-	109,413 Bush.	14,925	Bush 3	12	95,666 Bush.	14,089				
Wheat		499,720	326,412		-	499,712	326,388				
Barley		10,539	3,475	449	390	10,090	3,085				
Oats		220,059	69,152	453	354	219,606	68,798				
Pease	/ -	10,547	11,435	1,814	2,444	8,657	8,877				
Beans -		7,334	12,464	135	290	6,492	11,809				
Rye		1,170	561	_	-	1,170	561				
Corn		1,485,980	751,233	-		1,485,980	751,233				
Cornmeal		Brls. 25,780	63,320	Brls.	19	Brls. 25,777	63,301				
Oatmeal -		Lbs. 103,372	2,977	Lbs. 50,720	1,358	Lbs. 52,652	1,618				
Flour wheat -		Brls. 47,883	119,370	Brls.	36	Brls. 47,874	119,324				
Bran, mill feed, &c.			90,280	_	* v = ' 3		90,280				
Potatoes -		Bush. 97,269	42,869	Bush.		Bush. 97,234	42,788				
Hay - ·		Tons.	13,170	Tons.	1	Tons. 1,796	13,170				
		Lbs. 872,314	138,886	Lbs. 128,185	23,859	Lbs. 500,648	71,758				
Hops		Bush, 44,513	37,400	Bush. 310	1,549	Bush. 44,035	33,251				
Seed, flax -		73,010	524,237		38,688		452,858				
Seeds, other -		Cwt. 173,439	622,396	Cwt. 29,352	123,469	Cwt. 143,637	497,534				
Hemp, undressed -					5,544	1	113,004				
Trees and plants, all ki	inas	-	137,278	1	0,044		110,00				

^{*} Animals for improvement of stock not included.

[†] Including shoulders and sides,

		Imports entered for Home Consumption.							
Articles.	To	ital.	From Grea	t Britain.	From United States.				
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.			
Tobacco, raw -	Lbs. 12,199,400	\$ 1,362,985	Lbs. 21,031	\$ 5,578	Lbs. 12,083,505	\$ 1,324,149			
Fruits:—		Water Street							
Apples, dried	49,605	3,630	56	8	48,755	3,604			
" green or ripe	Brls. 17,221	46,554	Brls.		Brls. 17.011	45,277			
Currants	Lbs.	59	Lbs.		Lbs. 1,189	59			
	1,189	the first see	V-0						
Cherries	122,179	9,767	7.7		122,179	9,767			
Grapes	977,754	56,118	406,757	29,711	565,957	26,067			
Peaches	1,160,955	38,092	_	_	1,160,955	38,092			
Plums	Bush. 25,417	22,688	Bush.	4	Bush. 25,417	22,688			
Cranberries		9,979	20	50	3,855	9,927			
Berries, all kinds	Lbs. 645,168	48,950	Lbs.	-	Lbs. 645,168	48,950			
All other articles -	-	784,174	-	64,802	-	632,355			
(1895	_	9,270,953	-	623,352		8,046,619			
Total - { 1894	_	9,439,028		802,260	_	7,982,818			

58. The following table from the Canadian Trade and Navigation Reports gives a statement of exports from Canada in the year ended 30th June 1895, of agricultural produce, showing total exports and exports to Great Britain and the United States:—

					Exp	orts, the Pro	rts, the Produce of Canada.					
Articles.				To	tal.	To Great	Britain.	To United States.				
				Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.			
Horses				No. 14,744	\$ 1,312,676	No. 7,430	\$ 747,767	No. 6,664	\$ 510,765			
Cattle				93,802	7,120,823	85,863	6,797,615	882	19,216			
Sheep				291,754	1,624,587	137,889	1,253,399	146,783	346,746			
Swine				805	7,562	128	1,280	367	4,696			
Other and	imals a	nd pou	ltry -	Lbs. 112,316	4 5,8 4 8 5,773	Lbs.	5,021	Lbs. 65,604	36,57 4 3,526			
Pork		3.11		519,736	32,436	211,436	11,944	25,358	1,763			
Bacon				37,526,058	3,546,107	37,505,934	3,544,015	6,934	718			
Hams				2,607,968	260,602	2,547,852	254,326	10,927	1,069			
Beef -				5,673,592	438,053	5,324,793	418,440	151,260	6,066			
Meats, ca	nned			3,470,446	319,702	3,417,401	314,841	48,333	4,421			
Lard				1,276,586	104,130	1,272,701	103,833	-	_			
Tallow				24,017	907	-1-	-	19,978	640			
Hides, ho	rns, an	d pelts			961,267	-	12,624	-	945,699			

					Exp	orts, the Produce of Canada.				
A	rticles.			Tot	al.	To Great	Britain.	To Unite	ed States.	
				Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
Wool				Lbs. 5,463,161	\$ 1,049,459	Lbs. 10,205	\$ 2,091	Lbs. 5,449,955	\$ 1,046,726	
Butter				3,650,258	697,476	2,751,848	536,797	27,757	5,365	
Cheese				146,004,650	14,253,002	145,726,022	14,220,505	32,292	5,058	
Poultry an	d gam	e dress	ed		00.001		1 004	10 W. 10 . 1	11 107	
and und	ressed	•	•	Doz.	20,091	Doz.	1,824	Doz.	11,167	
Eggs -	•		•	6,500,817 Bush.	807,990	4,184.271 Bush.	524,577	2,256,518 Bush.	275,827	
Wheat	•	•	•	8,825,689	5,359,109	8,786,798	5,339,085	20,190	10,258	
Barley		:	•	1,708,370	720,718	30,365	11,961	1,674,193	706,586	
Oats -		•	•	926,975	320,458	257,253	71,623	175,043	51,099	
Pease	•		•	2,259,124	1,730,659	1,688,657	1,184,883	329,633	357,937	
Beans		-		350,934	425,283	_	-	349,189	422,521	
Buckwheat	t -	•		379,794	174,056	33,330	14,195	127,714	53,933	
Rye -				62,942	33,003	49,548	27,510	13,394	5,493	
Corn				120	112	77		72	79	
Cornmeal	,			Brls. 976.	3,092	Brls.	-	Brls.	-	
Oatmeal				80,263	276,310	77,149	265,320	26	97	
Flour		Sales !		222,975	839,112	104,501	420,983	2,818	10,706	
Bran				Cwt. 119,137	87,259	Cwt. 84,357	66,461	Cwt. 24,859	12,575	
Flax -				16,692	151,567	5,867	52,041	10,825	99,526	
" seed				Bush. 65,152	71,308	Bush. 22,891	28,245	Bush. 42,261	43,063	
Potatoes				1,379,042	527,379	628	556	773,707	238,977	
			•	Tons.	1,539,691	Tons.	492,683	Tons. 137,514	979,914	
Hay -			•	199,072 Lbs.		Lbs. 91,191		Lbs.	8,884	
Hops			•	239,225 Bush.	28,176	Bush.	13,829	Bush.		
Seeds, clov		grass	•	164,670 Lbs.	823,059	114,430 Lbs.	625,996	35,202 Lhs.	115,463	
Apples, dri		•	•	4,176,950 Brls.	250,320	568.347 Brls.	40,576	1,063,962 Brls.	63,212	
" gre	en and	l ripe	•	853,268	1,821,463	751,232	1,659,441	86,841	134,702	
Berries, all	kinds	•	•		107,817	-	219	-	107,330	
Fruits, ca	nned	or pr	e-	-	109,122	-	51,353	-	55,191	
Fruits, all	other	•		-	40,602	-	11,533	-	18,203	
All other a	rticles		•	-	483,178	_	153,089		289,455	
	Pota 1	518	95	_	48,531,344	-	39,282,481	-	7,011,256	
	[otal	18	94	-	47,802,859	-	40,181,644	-	4,599,211	

FISHERIES.

59. The fishing industry in Canada in 1894 employed 79,719 men, using vessels, boats, nets and other gear valued at \$9,439,116.

The following table gives the average in three-year periods of men employed:—

CANADA. 1895.

			Men in Vessels.	Men in Boats.	Total Fishermen.
1879-81		-	8,645	51,725	60,370
1882-4	-	1 -	9,487	52,299	61,786
1885–7			9,126	53,867	62,993
1888–90	-	-	9,307	54,497	63,714
1891–3		-	8,632	57,037	65,669
1894 -	-	-	9,525	61,194	70,719

Under Act passed in 1882 to encourage sea-fishing and the building of fishing vessels, provision was made for the distribution of \$150,000 annually among the fishermen. By Act of 1881 the amount was increased to \$160,000.

60. The development of the fisheries is seen in the following statement, showing, by provinces, the value of the vessels, boats, nets, weirs, lobster traps, smoke and fish houses, piers and wharves, sailing and steam smacks:—

Provinces.			1883.	1884.	Increase
Nova Scotia -		-	\$ 2,490,965	\$ 3,361,972	\$ 871,007
New Brunswick	•	-	730,343	1,680,912	950,569
Prince Edward Island	۱ -	-	126,314	468,736	342,422
Quebec -	-	-	733,571	904,811	171,240
Ontario -	•	-	271,089	839,022	567,933
British Columbia		-	768,245	1,984,943	1,216,698
Manitoba -	-	, .		198,720	198,720
Totals	-	-	5,120,527	9,439,116	4,318,589

The value of the yield of the fisheries by three-year periods (yearly average) is given below:—

				\$	
1869-71		-	-	- 6,175,70	5
1872-4	-	-		- 10,669,000	0
1875-7	-			- 11,175,97	7
1878-80		-		- 13,748,30	4
1881-3			-	- 16,533,149	9
1884-6	-	-	-	- 17,722,88	8

CANADA.					\$
1895,	1887-9	-	-	-	17,819,956
	1890-2	- >			18,544,717
	1893			-	20,686,661
	1894	3 - 7			20,719,573
	1895				20,183,841

61. Statement of the value of exports of fisheries of Canada:-

Yearly average by three-year periods.

				\$
-			-	3,402,923
		*	-	4,386,589
-		-	-	5,391,295
-	9-	-	-	6,552,403
	-	Sittle-	-	7,043,150
-41	- 5		-	8,453,591
d- lib		W. Carry	-	7,170,793
-	-		-	8,129,838
	-		-	9,840,380
-	-	-	-	10,692,247

From the several fish-hatcheries of the Dominion there were distributed 125,840,000 fry in 1895.

62. The following particulars are given respecting the Canadian Pacific sealing industry:—

The state of the s			1895.	1894.
Total catch			73,614	95,048
Distributed thus:-		1		
British Columbia Coast	-		9,853	11,703
Japanese Coast -	-		18,687	49,483
Copper Island Coast	-	-	6,281	7,437
Behring Sea -			35,918	26,425
Fleet:—				
Number of Vessels		-	64	59
" Boats -		-	210	266
" Canoes	-	-	421	259
Crews:—				
White	-	-	705	888
Indians -			854	518

MINERALS.
63. Mineral Production of Canada.

		18	94.	18	95.
Products.		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Arsenic -		Tons.	\$ 420	Tons.	103010-001
Asbestos -		7,630	420,825	8,756	368,175
Baryta				Fire of Start I	168
*Bricks		be Every	*1,800,000		*1,800,000
*Building stone	1122	Market St.	*1,200,000		*1,200,000
Cement		Brls. 107,327	140,659	Brls. 134,644	181,162
Chromite -		Tons.	_	Tons. 3,177	41,301
Coal -		3,853,235	8,447,329	3,512,504	7,774,178
Coke		57,768	147,961	53,356	143,047
		Lbs. 8,481,685	805,760	Lbs. 8,789,162	The state of
Copper		Tons.		Tons.	949,229
Fire-clay -		252 Sq. ft.	515	1,329 Sq. ft.	3,492
Plag-stones -		152,700 Oz.	5,298	80,005 Oz.	60,867
Hold -	•	52,992 Tons.	954,451	Tons.	1,910,921
dranite		16,392	109,936	19,188	90,199
Fraphite -		-		220	6,150
rindstones -		3,757	32,717	3,919	31,532
ypsum -		223,631	202,031	226,178	202,608
ron ore •		†109,991	226,611	102,797	238,070
" chromic -		2,215	36,946	_	-
ead (fine, contained	in ore)-	Lbs. 5,792,700	189,262	Lbs. 23,075,892	749,966
ithographic stones		Tons.	30,000	Tons.	
		_	*900,000		*900,000
Lime		25 100		94 570	
Limestone for flux		35,100	34,347	34,579	32,916
Ianganese -		74	4,180	125	8,464
farble	-		-	200	2,000
Iercury -		-	-	1000	2,343
fica		Galls.	*50,000	Galls.	65,000
Iineral water -		511,460 Tons.	95,040	707,382 Tons.	111,048
Ioulding sand		3,074	6,148	6,765	13,530
Vatural gas -	-		313,754		423,032
lickel		Lbs. 4,907,430	2,061,120	Lbs.	1,360,984
Ochres -		Tons. 1,155	11,120	Tons. 1,339	14,600
Petroleum (brls. of 3	35 imp	Brls. 829,104	835,322	Brls. 802,573	1,201,184
gallons.) Phosphate	p.	Tons. 7,290	43,940	Tons. 1,822	9,565
	dia 1	1,200		1,022	0,000
Platinum -	Wip !		1,000		

^{*}Estimated.
† Of the reported quantity of iron ore in 1894, 109,991 tons were converted into pig-iron producing 55,947 tons, valued at the furnaces at \$646,447.

	189	4.	18	95.
Products.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
*Potters' ware -		\$ 113,874		\$ 125,600
Precious stones -		1,500	Tons.	1,650
Pyrites	Tons. 40,527	121,581	34,198	102,594
Roofing cement -	- 565	1,978	_	3,153
Salt -	- 57,199	170,687	60,018	180,417
Sands and gravel (exports)	- 324,656	86,940	277,162	118,359
Sewer pipes Silver	Oz.	250,325 409,239	Oz. 1,775,683 Tons.	257,045 1,158,633
Slate	Tons.	75,550	Tons.	58,900
Soap stone	- 916	1,640	475	2,138
Terra cotta		65,600		195,123
*Tiles	Brls.	*200,000	Brls.	200,000
Whiting	- Bris.	750		-
Estimated value of miner products not returned.	al —	294,744	-	254,657
Total -		20,900,000		22,500,000

^{*} Estimated.

64. EXPORTS (DOMESTIC).

-		1894.	1895.
		\$	\$
Asbestos	-	339,756	493,075
Coal	-	3,321,565	3,578,195
Copper	-	88,352	222,657
Gold	-	318,258	612,729
Gypsum	-	160,082	156,897
Iron ()re -	-	9,026	43,088
ron and Steel -	-	295,924	308,711
Mica	-	26,553	47,469
Nickel	-	808,799	559,568
Phosphates -	-	40,400	33,810
Silver	-	423,707	651,737
Stone and Marble	-	46,884	60,405
Other Articles -	-	441,456	663,244
Totals -		6,320,761	4,471,585

These exports were distributed:—1894: to United States, 83 per cent.; Great Britain, 5.6 per cent.; British Possessions, 6.2 per cent. 1895: United States, 87 per cent.; Great Britain, 7 per cent.; British Possessions, 4 per cent. All other countries, in 1894, took 5.2 per cent.; and in 1895, 2 per cent.

COAL.

65. The coal area of Canada is estimated at 97,200 square miles, not including areas known but as yet undeveloped in the far North.

The following table gives the production, consumption, and export of coal for the year 1895:—

	_				Tons of 2,000 lbs.	
Production :	i de					
Nova Scotia -	1			at 1	2,339,614	, Trag
British Columbia		-		-	1,052,412	* * *
Manitoba -			-	-		
North West Terr	itories	100			120,318	4
New Brunswick	-			10-0	_	
Total Pro	duction	1 -		gn b	3,512,344	
Exported	, calend	ar year	- 1	-	1,011,235	2
Balance f	or Hom	e consur	nption	-	2,501,109	
Imported :						100
Bituminous -	- 10		-	-	1,475,308	- 500
Anthracite -	- 1			-	1,599,749	The Art
Coal dust, n.e.s.	-	-	-	-	181,171	
Coke -	•			-	45,040	
					3,301,268	
Re-exported	-			-	96,682	
Balance for Home	consum	ption	-	-	3,204,586	
Total required for	Home	consumi	otion		5,705,695	

IRON.

66. The iron ores of the Dominion have a wide range both geographically and geologically.

Magnetic ores, hematite iron ores, and chromic iron occur in

abundance.

The following table gives the quantity and value of iron ore exported from Canada:—

Average three-year Periods.

	_			Tons.	Value.
					\$
1868-70		-	-	22,997	49,916
1871-3		-	-	33,397	45,103
1874-6	-		-	30,336	68,119
1877-9			-	5,579	11,929
1880-2	-	-	-	46,345	108,929
1883-5	-	-	-	41,539	112,466
1886-8	- 1	-	-	14,824	44,976
1889-91	-		-	17,737	41,412
1892-4	-	-	-	5,792	24,025
1895 -		-	-	*4,729	43,088

^{*} Includes 2,414 tons of chromic iron valued at \$27,345.

CANADA. 1895.

67. The following table gives the production of pig-iron in Canada, the import of pig-iron, kentledge and cast scrap-iron, the total consumption and the per cent. of home produce to total consumption:—

Year ende June 30tl			Imports.	Total Consumption.	Per-centage of Home produce
		Tons. 2,000 lbs.	Tons. 2,000 lbs.	Tons. 2,000 lbs.	
1884 -	-	29,593	52,184	81,777	36.2
1885 -	-	25,770	43,398	69,168	37.2
1886 -		26,180	45,648	71,828	36.4
1887 -	-	39,717	50,214	89,931	44.2
1888 -	-	22,209	48,973	71,182	31.2
1889 -	-	24,823	72,115	96,938	25.6
1890 -	-	25,697	87,613	113,310	22.7
891 -	-	20,153	81,317	101,470	19.8
1892 -	7-	30,294	68,918	99,212	30.5
1893 -	-	46,948	63,522	110,470	42.5
1894 -	-	62,522	45,790	108,312	57.7
1895 -	-	31,692	35,060	66,752	47.5
1896 -	-			_	

68. The following table shows the iron and steel imports into Canada:—

			1894.	1895.
From British Empire:—			\$	\$
Dutiable	-	-	3,528,164	2,132,300
Free	-	-	2,005,945	1,177,866
Total		-	5,534,109	3,310,166
Duty paid			895,717	439,810
Per-centage of duty on total	_	-	16.4	13.3
Proportion of dutiable	-	-	63.7	64.4
" free	•	-	36.3	35.6
From all other Countries :-				
Dutiable	-	-	5,248,369	5,273,623
Free	-		528,293	665,960
Total -	٠	-	5,776,662	5,939,283
Duty paid			1,560,969	1,507,864
Per-centage of duty on total			29.7	28.6
Proportion of dutiable -			90.8	88.8
,, free			9.2	11.2

IMPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL.

CANADA. 1895.

				100		Yearly Average.	1894.	1895.
Total impor	rts, Home consumption	on, 1882–86			\$ 75,251,232	\$ 15,050,246	\$ 11,493,120	\$ 9,522,327
"	" "	1889-93			70,972,717	14,194,543	_	
Imports fro	om Great Britain	- 1882–86			44,125,291	8,825,058	5,514,340	3,340,838
,,	,,	1889-93			39,718,373	7,943,274		_
"	United States	- 1882-86			29,683,187	5,956,637	5,295,415	5,680,539
"	,,	- 1889-93			28,162,406	5,632,481		75-
,,	other Countries	- 1882-86	-		1,442,754	288,551	683,365	500,950
29	29	1889-93			3,091,938	618,387	_	
Proport on	from Great Britain	- 1882-86			p.c. 58.6	_	p.c. 48'0	p.c. 35·1
"	29	- 1889–93	-		56.0		-	_
99	United States	- 1882–86			39.4	_	46'1	59.6
"	***************************************	- 1889-93			39.6	_		
33	other Countries	s - 1882–86			2.0		5.9	5.3
,,,	,,	- 1889-93			4.4	_		1

Imports from Countries other than Great Britain and United States.

		1886.	1893.	1894.	1895.
		\$	\$	8	\$
Interchangeable mechanism -	-	15,109	24,559	33,892	27,158
Hardware, cutlery, and edged tools	-	149,734	205,690	252,887	162,105
Machinery		5,452	64,557	24,909	85,260
Castings and forgings	-	2,504	413	327	555
Rails and railway supplies -	-	45,388	54,549	82,464	21,460
Other forms of iron and steel -	-	131,563	275,229	288,279	203,637
Pig-iron	-	2,067	359	607	774
Total -		351,817	625,356	683,365	500,949

GOLD.

69. Gold is found in the provinces of British Columbia, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, and Ontario, and in the North West Territories.

In New Brunswick the amount of the metal obtained is insignificant, but rocks very nearly resembling those of the auriferous belts of Nova Scotia, and believed to be of the same age, are largely developed.

In Quebec, though the evidence in the different reports of the Geological Survey is largely confirmatory of evidence presented through various sources, to the effect that there exists a very large extent of territory containing rich deposits of gold, not

more than three or four companies working in a very small way are engaged in prosecuting gold mining.

In Nova Scotia the gold-bearing quartz lodes occur in the Cambrian or Cambro-Silurian measures and belong chiefly to the class of "bedded" lodes from which by far the greater bulk of the gold produced has come.

The area of the gold measures in Nova Scotia has been variously estimated from five thousand to seven thousand square miles.

In British Columbia the year 1895 showed a marked increase in the practical development of the mining industry.

In Ontario there has also been a marked increase in development.

70. The value of the gold production in the two principal gold-producing provinces is as under:—

	Year.		British Columbia.	Nova Scotia.	Total.	
			\$	\$	\$	
1862 1863		-	} 4,246,266 {	$\left.\begin{array}{c} 141,871 \\ 272,448 \end{array}\right\}$	4,660,585	
1864		6-1	3,735,850	390,349	4,126,199	
1865	1 11 11000	-	3,491,205	496,357	3,987,562	
1866		-	2,662,106	491,491	3,153,597	
1867		-	2,480,868	532,563	3,013,431	
1868		-	2,372,972	400,555	2,773,527	
1869			1,774,978	348,427	2,123,405	
1870		-	1,336,956	387,392	1,724,348	
1871		-	1,799,440	374,972	2,174,412	
1872		-	1,610,972	255,349	1,866,321	
1873			1,305,749	231,122	1,536,871	
1874	19 18 a 11 17		1,844,618	178,244	2,022,862	
1875		-	2,474,904	218,629	2,693,533	
1876		-	1,786,648	233,585	2,020,233	
1877		-	1,608,182	329,205	1,937,387	
1878	Pitt - Till		1,275,204	245,253	1,520,457	
1879	E C - 700	-	1,290,058	268,328	1,558,386	
1880		-	1,013,827	257,823	1,271,650	
1881			1,046,737	209,755	1,256,492	
1882	-	-	954,085	275,090	1,229,175	
1883		-	794,252	301,207	1,095,459	
1884	-	-	736,165	313,554	1,049,719	
1885	-	-	713,738	432,971	1,146,709	
1886		-	903,651	455,564	1,359,215	
1887	-	-	694,559	413,631	1,108,190	
1888	4		616,731	436,939	1,053,670	
1889	-	-	588,923	510,029	1,098,952	
1890	•	-	494,436	474,990	969,426	
1891	16-10	-	429,811	456,125	885,936	
1892	-	21-	399,525	411,060	810,585	
1893		-	379,535	*273,585	653,120	
1894		-	456,066	358,839	814,905	
1895			636,545	431,184	1,067,729	
	Total	-	47,955,562	11,808,486	59,764,048	

* Nine months only.
Note—1 oz. of gold estimated at \$19.50 per oz.

COPPER.

CANADA. 1895.

71. Copper occurs in Canada in the form of native or metallic copper and the sulphuretted ores.

The largest deposits are found in the neighbourhood of Sudbury in Ontario. In the same neighbourhood are the most valuable nickel mines in the world.

PRODUCTION OF COPPER IN CANADA.

Three-year Periods (Average).

Y	Year.		Quantity.	Value.	
1886-8			lbs. 4,144,322	\$ 454,629	
1889-91	- 1	-	7,250,781	982,745	
1892-4	•	10-	7,877,912	841,071	
1895	-	-	8,789,162	949,229	

The exports of copper (fine) in 1895 amounted to 1,722 tons, valued at \$222,657.

72. NICKEL PRODUCED IN CANADA.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	\$
1890-1, Two years (average)	3,031,184	1,854,004
1892-4, Three ,, ,, -	3,771,376	1,845,809
1895	-	1,360,984

73. Petroleum is found in different parts of Canada, but the petroleum field of the county of Lambton in Western Ontario is the only considerable source of supply yet developed in the Dominion.

PRODUCTION OF PETROLEUM.

ALCOHOL AND LAND		. 189	93.	1894.			
Product.			Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
			Imp. gall.	\$	Imp. gall.	\$	
Petroleum -	-		34,055,000	_	34,912,360	-	
Illuminating oil			13,322,320	1,372,209	14,349,472	1,337,040	
Lubricating "	•		4,239,847	277,500	3,817,181	242,688	
Other oils -		-	11,220,705 lbs.	323,156	10,632,141 lbs.	343,416	
Paraffin wax	-	-	2,250,000	143,325	2,754,300	152,467	
Fuel product			_	72,500	_	71,326	

Canadian Petroleum and Naphtha inspected and corresponding Quantities of Crude Oil.

Year.			Refined Oils.	Crude. Equivalent calculated.
			Imp. gall.	Imp. gall.
1882	- 1	-	5,910,787	13,134,993
1883		-	6,970,550	15,490,111
1884		/ -	7,656,011	19,140,027
1885		-	7,661,617	19,154,042
1886		-	8,149,472	21,445,979
1887			8,243,962	21,694,637
1888			9,545,895	25,120,776
1889	-	-	9,462,834	24,902,195
1890	-	-	10,121,210	26,634,763
1891			10,270,827	27,028,492
1892		-	10,238,426	26,943,227
1893		-	10,683,806	28,115,278
1894	-	-	10,825,350	28,487,763
1895			10,928,894	28,760,247

SALT.

74. The salt produced in the Dominion is almost all manufactured in Ontario, the salt beds of Western Ontario covering an area of about 2,000 square miles. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company, in drilling for salt, bored through 40 feet of rock salt; then encountered rock 23 to 30 feet thick, then a second layer of salt 23 feet thick, then rock 5 feet thick, then 38 feet of salt

Production.

CANADA. 1895.

	Yea	r.		Tons.	Value.
					\$
1886	-	4-	-	62,359	227,197
1887		-	-	60,173	166,394
1888	-	-	-	59,070	185,460
1889	2 -	-	-	32,832	128,547
1890	-		-	43,754	198,897
1891	-	-	-	45,021	161,041
1892	-	95.	-	45,486	162,041
1893		-	-	62,324	195,926
1894		-	-	57,199	170,687
1895	-	-	-	60,018	180,417

The imports of salt, free and dutiable, in the three years 1893-5, average 105,950 tons valued at \$368,510.

SILVER.

75. The production of silver in the Dominion has increased in recent years. During the five years 1887-91 the amount produced averaged 388,647 ounces yearly. In 1894 it was 847,697 ounces, and in 1895, 1,775,683 ounces.

The Federal Parliament in 1895 passed an Act to encourage silver-lead smelting, and the smelting of other ores of gold and silver, to continue in effect till the 1st July 1900.

APATITE.

76. The occurrence of workable areas of apatite is known to cover a very extensive area in the Laurentian system of the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario, but those which have been worked to date are confined to the county of Labelle in Quebec, and to the counties of Lanark, Leeds, Frontenac, and Renfrew in Ontario.

During 1878-95, 297,342 tons, valued at over \$5,000,000, have been exported.

The quantity exported in 1895 was 4,189 tons, or about one-

fourth of the average of the previous eighteen years.

The decrease is due to Algerian and Tunisian phosphates having secured the market. The Canadian apatite is a most eligible material for the manufacture of a concentrated superphosphate.

ASBESTOS.

77. The mineral produced in Canada at the present time belongs to the Chrysolite variety. It occurs in veins in certain portions of the great belt of serpentine rocks of the Eastern townships of the province of Quebec.

1895.

The production by three-year periods, yearly average, has been:—

1886-8 - - - 4,160 tons.

1889-91 - - - 8,417 ,,

1892-4 - - - 6,715 ,,

1895 - - - 8,756 ,,

GYPSUM.

78. Gypsum is worked at present only in Ontario, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia.

The average yearly production by three-year periods has been :-

1886-8	-	-	165,298	tons.
1889-91		-	214,462	"
1892-4	_	-	214,256	"
1895	-	-	226,178	,,

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

79. The legal weights and measures of Canada are the imperial yard, imperial pound avoirdupois, imperial gallon (of 277.27384 cubic inches), and the imperial bushel. The hundredweight is by law declared to be 100 pounds, and the ton 2,000 pounds, avoirdupois.

In contracts for sale and delivery the bushel is determined by

weight unless a bushel measure is specially agreed upon.

The weight equivalent to a bushel is as follows:-

Wheat, pease, beans, potatoes, turnips, carrots, parsnips, beets, onions, and clover seed, 60 pounds; Indian corn and rye, 56 pounds; barley, timothy, and buckwheat, 48 pounds; malt, 36 pounds; oats, 34 pounds; flax seed, 50 pounds; hemp, 44 pounds; castor beans, 40 pounds; bituminous coal, 70 pounds; and blue grass seed, 14 pounds.

80. Imports and Exports, and Total Trade of Canada, 1868 to 1895.

	ended June.		Total Imports.	Total Exports.	Excess of Imports.	Imports. Home Consumption.	Exports. Domestic.	Total Imports and Exports.
1868			\$ 73,459,644	\$ 57,567,888	\$ 15,891,756	\$ 71,985,306	\$ 48,504,899	\$ 131,027,532
1869			70,415,165	60,474,781	9,940,384	67,402,170	52,400,772	130,889,946
1870			74,814,339	73,573,490	1,240,849	71,237,603	59,043,590	148,387,829
1871		-	96,092,971	74,173,618	21,919,353	86,947,482	57,630,024	170,266,589
1872	3.	-	111,430,527	82,639,663	28,790,864	107,709,116	65,831,083	194,070,190
1873		-	128,011,281	89,789,922	38,221,359	127,514,594	76,538,025	217,801,203
1874	STOK.	HI Q	128,213,582	89,351,928	38,861,654	127,404,169	76,741,997	217,565,510
1875	-100		123,070,283	77,886,979	45,183,304	119,618,657	69,709,823	200,957,262
1876	- Cale	-	93,210,346	80,966,435	12,243,911	94,733,218	72,491,436	174,176,781

Total Imports. Year ended 30th June. Total Imports Total Excess of Exports. Home Con-sumption. Imports. Exports. Domestic. Imports. Exports. \$ 175,203,355 99,327,962 23,452,569 96,300,483 75,875,393 68,030,546 1877 13,758,120 93,081,787 79,323,667 91,199,577 67,989,800 172,405,454 1878 71,491,255 10,473,172 **†75,063,478** 62,431,025 153,455,682 81,964,427 1879 87,911,458 71,782,349 72,899,697 174,401,205 86,489,747 1880 98,290,823 7,040,017 91,611,604 83,944,701 203,621,663 105,330,840 1881 102,137,203 17,282,297 112,648,927 94,137,660 221,556,703 1882 119,419,500 132,254,022 98,085,804 34,168,218 123,137,019 87,702,431 230,339,826 1883 91,406,496 24.990.547 108,180,644 79,833,098 207.803.539 116,397,043 1884 89,238,361 19,703,125 102,710,019 79.131.735 198,179,847 108,941,486 1885 85,251,314 19,173,247 99,602,694 77,756,704 189,675,875 104,424,561 1886 23,376,425 105,639,428 80,960,909 112,892,236 89,515,811 202,408,047 1887 102,847,100 81,382,072 90,203,000 20,691,630 201,097,630 110,894,630 1888 109,673,447 115,224,931 89,189,167 26,035,764 80,272,456 204,414,098 1889 25,109,092 112,765,584 85,257,586 218,607,390 121,858,241 96,749,149 1890 113,345,124 88,801,066 218,384,934 98,417,296 21,550,342 119,967,638 1891 116,978,943 99,338,913 241,369,443 127,406,068 113,963,375 13,442,693

CANADA. 1895.

118,564,352

117,524,949

113,638,803

2,493,202,380

89,042,942

129,074,268

123,474,940

110,781,682

3,017,924,147

107,783,005

81. TOTAL VALUE of IMPORTS and EXPORTS of CANADA by COUNTRIES—Year ended June 30th, 1895.

10,509,916

5,949,991

525,121,767

18,754,349

121,705,030

113,093,983

105,252,511

2,848,090,259

101,717,509

105,798,257

104,161,770

103,085,012

2,181,807,087

77,921,682

247,638,620

240,999,889

224,420,485

5,511,126,530

196,825,947

Add to the same of		Imports from.	Exports to.
BRITISH EMPIRE.		\$	\$
United Kingdom -		31,138,414	61,856,990
Australia	-	117,941	428,267
British East Indies -	1,4	233,345	4,132
West Indies -	-	1,239,629	1,857,017
Cuiuna		173,412	346,430
" Honduras -		_	1,923
Africa -	_	95,843	72,910
Ceylon		145	100 - 100
Gibraltar		-	5,760
Hong Kong -	-	2,291	12,903
Fiji Islands		CONTRACTOR OF THE	2,027
Newfoundland -	3, 14 5	740,261	1,837,996
Total British Empire	· · · ·	33,741,281	66,426,355

95450.

1892

1893

1894

1895

Total

Annual average

^{*} Excess of exports, \$1,421,711 in 1880 and \$2,857,121 in 1895.

+ \$5,278,130 less than the figures given in Trade and Navigation Return, value of foreign grain and breadstuffs re-exported, calculated at import value. (See Trade and Navigation Return, 1880, page 506.)

THE RESERVE]	imports from.	Exports to.
		\$	\$
Argentine Republic -	-	23,604	502,520
Austria-Hungary -	-	178,394	
Belgium	-	451,697	251,402
Brazil	-	91,548	612,639
China	-	942,493	367,853
Dutch East Indies -	-	361,113	
France	-	2,636,328	335,282
Germany	-	4,983,384	626,976
Greece	-	74,291	
Holland	-	247,468	140,264
Italy	-	339,501	34,325
Japan	-	1,572,937	10,307
Spain	-	420,155	34,101
Spanish West Indies -	-	3,964,234	1,453,368
Other Spanish possessions	-	573,006	15,810
Switzerland	-	255,843	640
United States of America	-	59,337,239	*42,297,676
All other countries -	-	587,166	529,285
Total	_	110,781,682	113,638,803

^{*} Includes \$3,300,000 estimated short returns at Inland Ports.

82. VALUE of TRADE per HEAD of POPULATION; AMOUNT of DUTY COLLECTED; AMOUNT of DUTY per HEAD and Per-centage of Duty.

Average Five Years' Period.

_		Value of		Duties Col	llected.	Per-centage of Duty.		
Period.	Imports per Head.	Exports per Head.	Total Trade per Head.	Total.	Per Head.	On Total Value of Goods Imported—Free and Dutiable.	On Total Value of Goods entered for Home Consumption Free and Dutiable.	
	8	\$	\$	*\$	\$	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	
1869-73	27.07	21.49	48.56	11,133,745	3.14	11.72	12.30	
1874-78	27.27	20.45	47'72	13,592,104	3.44	12.77	12.93	
1879-83	24.33	21.24	45.57	18,092,064	4.18	17.08	18.82	
1884-88	24.17	19.44	43.61	20,685,198	4.21	18.67	19.91	
1889-93	25.31	21.30	46.61	22,598,558	4.68	18.45	19.57	
1894	24.59	23.40	47.99	19,379,822	3.86	15.69	17.13	
1895	21.79	22.35	44.14	17,887,269	3.2	16.14	16.99	

IMPORTS for HOME CONSUMPTION (by Classes).—Year ended June 30th, 1895.

	Dutiable.	Free.	Average Rate of Duty on Dutiable Goods
	\$	\$	Per Cent.
Class A.—Articles of food and animals	7,817,389	11,717,488	23.51
which enter into the various processes of domestic industries.	4,081,054	18,004,722	24.03
" CArticles wholly or partially manufactured for use as materials in manufacturing.	10,054,945	6,775,942	25.55
, D.—Manufactured articles ready for consumption.	28,398,959	5,241,256	28.73
" EArticles of voluntary use, luxuries, &c.	8,205,308	378,828	52.88

83. The exports, produce of Canada, classified, for the year ended June 30th, 1895, are:—

			\$
Produce of the mine -	-	- 10-1	6,983,227
" fisheries -			10,692,247
" forest		-	23,891,166
Animals and their produc	ts -		34,387,770
Agricultural products .			15,719,128
Manufactures -			7,768,875
Miscellaneous -			85,938
Total produce of Car			99,528,351
Not produce of Cana	da -		6,485,043
Coin and bullion exp States Newfoundland coin e St. Pierre ,,		Jnited -	4,325,319
Estimated short retu ports -	rned at	inla n d	3,300,000
Grand total	l exports	- 1	13,638,803
		The second	

84. Exports of Canadian Produce.

Per-centage to Principal Countries.

			1875.	1885.	1895.
Great Britain		-	49.02	46.10	56.17
United States		-	40.07	44.93	34.79
France		-	0.30	0.38	0.32
Germany			0.13	0.33	0.51
Other European Countr	ries -		0.63	0.78	0.60
British West Indies -		-	3.24	1.93	1.76
Other ,, -		-	2.11	1.26	1.43
Newfoundland -	-	-	2.43	1.52	1.39
Other British Possession	as -	-	0.37	0.89	0.84
" Foreign Countrie	s -	-	1.70	1.88	2.19
			100	100.	100

CURRENCY, BANKS, and SAVINGS BANKS.

85. In 1871 the Federal Parliament passed an Act which gave to the several provinces an uniform currency, the single gold standard adopted being that of the British sovereign passing current at \$4.86\frac{2}{3}\$. Silver coin was made legal tender to \$10 and minor coin 25 cents.

In addition the banks and the Federal Government issue notes.

The Federal notes are full legal tender redeemable in specie on demand, and are of the following denominations:—25 cents, \$1, \$2, \$4, \$50, \$100, \$500, and \$1,000.

Under the law the Federal Government must hold against an issue of \$20,000,000 of its notes, 15 per cent. of gold, 10 per cent. additional either in gold or in Dominion securities guaranteed by Great Britain, and 75 per cent. in unguaranteed Dominion bonds; any excess of issue over \$20,000,000 to be fully covered by gold holdings.

86. On 31st December 1895 the total amount of Dominion notes issued was:—\$22,413,462, of which \$14,358,500 were notes of \$500 and \$1,000 held by the Chartered Banks under the Banking Act. Of the remainder, \$7,217,448 were \$1 and \$2

Against the issue of \$22,413,462 the law requires the Government to hold—

	\$
Gold, \$15 per cent. of \$20,000,000, equal to	3,000,000
,, excess over \$20,000,000, equal to - , or guaranteed sterling debentures -	2,413,462
,, or guaranteed sterling debentures -	2,000,000
Unguaranteed Dominion bonds	15,000,000
the state of the same of the s	00 170 100
Total	22,413,462

The amount actually held was:— Gold Guaranteed sterling debentures Unguaranteed sterling debentures		\$ - 10,650,702 - 1,946,667 - 17,250,000	CANADA. 1895.
Total -	and a	- 29,847,369	

showing an excess of gold and guaranteed debentures of \$5,183,907, and of the unguaranteed debentures of \$2,250,000.

Of the total issue of Government notes, 64.6 per cent. was held by the Chartered Banks and 35.4 per cent. was in general circulation.

87. The Chartered Banks are incorporated under the Banking Act, 53 Vict., chap. 31, which is the latest revision, the law

requiring such revision every 10 years.

The number of Chartered Banks in the Dominion reporting to the Government on the 30th June 1895 was 37; of these 10 had headquarters in Ontario, 13 in Quebec, eight in Nova Scotia, three in New Brunswick, two in Prince Edward Island, and one in British Columbia.

These 37 banks have 512 branches, of which 280 are in Ontario, 85 in Quebec, 65 in Nova Scotia, 30 in New Brunswick, 21 in Manitoba, 9 in the North-West Territories, 6 in Prince Edward Island, and 16 in British Columbia.

BANK STATISTICS.

Cens Year	Capital paid per Head of Population.	Circulation per Head.	People's Deposits per Head.	People's Discounts per Head.	Liabilities per Head.	Assets per Head
1871	\$ 10-30	\$ 5.75	\$ 15.48	\$ 23 33	\$ 22.07	\$ 34·46
1881	13.76	6.60	21.81	27.04	29.40	46.38
1891	15.26	6.24	30.70	35.40	38.75	55.72
1895*	12.16	6.06	35.92	40.08	45.20	62.27

Reserve fund, 1891 - - - 4.72 per head - 5.36 ,, ,,

				1875.	1885.	1895.
				\$	\$	\$
Capital paid up)	-	-	64,452,846	61,711,566	61,800,700
Notes in circul			-	23,035,639	30,720,762	30,807,041
Deposits				74,642,446	104,014,660	190,916,939
Current loans				151,027,988	159,701,089	220,790,252
Liabilities	-		-	104,609,356	138,762,695	229,794,322
Assets -			-	186,255,330	219,147,080	316,536,510
Specie -				†6,728,413	†6,766,698	†7,578,217
Dominion note	8			†6,992,145	†12,272,505	†15,255,563

The Clearing House transactions recorded for 1895 amounted to \$1,046,323,079.00

The several Chartered Banks have savings bank departments, but they do not make returns to the Government separating the savings deposits from their ordinary deposits.

88. In addition to these there are special incorporated Savings Banks, Post Office Savings Banks, and Government Savings Banks

The rate of interest paid in the Savings Banks under the direction of the Government is $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Savings Banks are connected with the loan companies and building societies.

89. Deposits with under-mentioned Savings Banks:-

GOVERNMENT.

Year.		Post Office.	Other Government.	Special.	Total.			
1875			•		\$ 2,926,090	\$ 4,245,091	\$ 6,611,416	\$ 13,782,597
1885	-	-	-		15,090,540	17,888,536	9,191,895	42,170,971
1895				-	26,805,542	17,644,956	13,128,483	57,578,981

In 1895 the number of offices under Government management was 766; the number of depositors in these was 175,560, and the average amount to each depositor was \$253.19.

90. LOAN COMPANIES and BUILDING SOCIETIES.

	1875.	1885.	1894.
Liabilities.	\$	\$	\$
Capital paid up	10,088,998	31,345,620	39,131,766
Reserve fund	1,578,909	7,199,456	11,433,493
Deposits	5,020,706	15,435,084	20,782,944
Debentures payable	772,084	34,798,038	57,541,710
Other liabilities	2,590,980	4,161,136	12,633,319
Total liabilities	20,051,677	92,939,334	141,523,232
Assets.			
Current loans secured on real			
estate	18,360,715	78,775,243	116,810,578
Total loans	18,890,809	82,084,049	121,692,979
Cash on hand	645,605	2,561,277	3,978,406
Property owned, real estate -	162,267	4,331,146	_
Total property owned	1,160,470	10,094,126	20,620,370
Total assets	20,051,280	92,178,175	142,313,349
Tr 1 C 1 citate treatment of	42,963,676	166,651,537	225,045,980
Value of real estate mortgaged - Overdue mortgages	433,557	3,084,114	3,244,464

91. FAILURES in CANADA.

CANADA. 1895.

	Year			Number.	Amount.
1875	4		-	_	\$ 28,843,000
1885		-	-	1,280	9,210,334
1895		-	-	1,875	15,347,931

Of these failures in 1895, 23.3 per cent. were manufacturing firms, 76.1 trading, and 0.6 "Other," the assets of the manufacturing class being 33.5 per cent. of the liabilities, and those of the trading class being 51.2 per cent.

92. RAILWAYS.

Mileage of Track laid and Square Miles of Area to each Mile of Railway, 30th June 1895.

Provinces.		Miles of Track laid.	Square Miles to each Mile.
Ontario		6,403	34
Quebec		3,139	72
New Brunswick -		1,404	20
Nova Scotia		891	23
Prince Edward Island	C. Falls	210	91/2
Manitoba		1,472	44
North-West Territories		1,772	225
British Columbia -		800	478
Total -		16,091	

Canada has 136 railways; 25 of these have been amalgamated and form the Grand Trunk system. The consolidation of 22 others has produced the Canadian Pacific Railway system. The remaining 89 have more or less consolidated so that in all there are 76 separate organizations.

The mileage of the several organizations is :-

Name of Rail	way.		Rails laid
Canadian Pacific		-	Miles. 6,174·10
Grand Trunk		-	3,161.98
Intercolonial -		-	1,383.60
Other railways		-	5,371.08
Total	-	-	16,090 · 76

93. The Government of Canada own 1,383 miles of railway and operate 1,352 miles. The remainder of the mileage is owned and operated by companies.

94. RAILWAY CAPITAL PAID, 1895.

			Amount.	Proportion to Capital paid.
			\$	Per Cent.
Ordinary share of capital -	-	-	255,769,556	28.48
Preference	-	-	105.680,034	11.81
Bonded debt		-	330,785,546	36.97
Aid from Dominion Government			150,763,283	16.85
" Ontario " Quebec "	-	-		
" N. Brunswick " " Nova Scotia " " Manitoba		-	29,727,512	3.32
Duitinh Columbia				
Municipalities			14,180,687	1.58
Capital from other sources		-	7,733,941	0.99
Total -	,	SINO!	894,640,559	100.00

RAILWAY STATISTICS.

Yea ende	Miles in Operation.	Train Mileage.	No. of Passengers.	Tons of Freight.	Earnings.	Working Expenses.	Proportion of Expenses to Railway.
1875	4,856	17,680,168	5,190,416	5,670,836	\$ 19,470,539	\$ 15,775,532	Per Cent. 81'0
1885	10,150	30,623,689	9,672,599	14,659,271	32,227,469	24,015,351	75.0
1895	15,977	40,661,890	13,987,580	21,524,421	46,785,487	32,749,669	70.0

95. STATEMENT of GROSS and NET INCOME of RAILWAYS of CANADA.

			1885.	1895.
ent de grande de la			\$	\$
Gross earnings from operation		-	31,805,162	45,055,390
Less general operating expenses	-	-	8,717,906	12,577,649
Income from operation -	-		23,087,256	32,477,741
Income from other sources -	-	-	422,307	1,730,096
Total income -			23,509,563	34,207,837
Deductions from income*	-	-	12,250,638	20,172,020
Net income -	-	-	8,258,925	14,035,817
Capital, share and preferential	-	-	312,182,162	361,449,590
Bonded debt		-	141,370,963	330,785,546
			Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Per cent. of net income to capital		-	2.64	3.88

^{*} Maintenance of line, buildings, &c., working and repairs of engines and of cars.

96. The earnings per train mile in 1895 were \$115.60 and

the working expenses were \$80.54.

The receipts from freight traffic formed 63.2 per cent. and from passage traffic 24.4 per cent. of the total. Of working expenses 41.1 per cent. was for working and repairs, 38.4 per cent. for general working expenses, and 21.5 per cent. for maintenance of line, &c.

97. The Intercolonial Railway (State-owned and operated) compares with the general average of all railways of Canada

as under:-

Lette surfact and homoto to super at	1894.	1895.
General average expenditure on buildings and	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
maintenance	20.8	21.5
and maintenance General average expenditure on workings and	22.8	23.5
repairing engines Intercolonial Railway expenditure on workings	32.4	31.8
and repairing engines -	36.0	35.3
General average expenditure on cars	8.8	8.4
Intercolonial Railway expenditure on cars -	14.1	13.6
General average general operating expenses -	38.0	38.4
Intercolonial Railway general operating expenses	27.4	27.3

98. During 10 years, 1885-94, the annual average number of persons killed in railway accidents was 1994 and of persons injured 747.5. In 1895 the killed numbered 187 and the injured 658. In 1895 the killed were divided into passengers, 9; employés, 51; others, 127. The "injured" were, passengers, 60; employés, 488; other, 110. The passengers killed were 0.64 per million of those carried.

CANALS.

99. The canals of Canada are principally in connexion with the River St. Lawrence and its tributaries. The total distance between Prince Arthur at the head of Lake Superior and the Straits of Belleisle is 2,260 miles, 71 of which are artificial, and 2,189 miles open navigation. In addition to the 71 miles there are the St. Clair Flats channel and the submerged canal between Montreal and Quebec.

The latter, made by dredging and aggregating $39\frac{1}{4}$ miles, gives a depth of $27\frac{1}{2}$ feet, a width of from 300 to 325 feet in the straight parts and of 450 feet in the worst places. The total cost of the work was \$4,566,000 and the total quantity of dredged matter

amounted to 21,556,286 cubic feet.

The number of locks in the St. Lawrence canals is 52, of which 25 are in the Welland Canal. The general system calls for locks 270 feet by 45 feet. The lock of the Sault St. Marie Canal is 900 feet by 60 feet.

CANADA. 1895. 58

CANADA. 1895. The Ottawa and Rideau rivers canal system is 291 miles long

and has 59 locks, chiefly 134 feet by 32 feet.

The Richelieu and Lake Champlain canal system has 10 locks. This system opens up navigation between Montreal and New York, the total distance between the two cities being 457 miles and the total lockage ascending and descending 283 feet.

St. Peter's Canal in Cape Breton connects the Bras d'Or Lakes and the Atlantic Ocean. It has one tidal lock 200 feet by $49\frac{1}{2}$

feet.

The expenditure on capital account on the canals of Canada to June 30th, 1895, has been \$64,689,570, and on renewals and maintenance \$13,429,749.

Of the amount charged to capital account the Welland Canal

is charged with the sum of \$24,128,340.

The total revenue from canals since Confederation (1867) to 30th June 1895 is \$10,578,258, being an average of \$377,795 a year.

Vessels and Tonnage using the Canadian Canals.

	Yes	ar.		Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1882			_	26,389	4,053,247
1885			_	21,762	3,350,965
1888	-	-	-	21,582	3,272,099
1891			- 1	22,848	3,973,570
1894	1/2		-	23,158	4,060,931
1895	-	-	-		
	We	elland C	anal (i	ncluded in abo	ove).
1882			- 1	2,931	679,040
1885			-	2,733	681,947
1888	-		-	2,647	828,271
1891	-		-	2,594	1,110,156
1894	-	-	-	2,412	1,252,945
1895	-		-		
	St. La	wrence	Canal	s (included in	above).
1882			- 1	10,604	1,936,896
1885		-	-	9,030	1,550,696
1888		-	-	9,005	1,500,096
1891		-	-	9,933	1,841,629
1894			-	8,545	1,697,237
1895		-	-		

MARINE.

100. Since Confederation (1867) 200,000,000 tons of sea-going shipping have entered the seaports of Canada; 172,000,000 tons have crossed the Great Lakes between Canada and the United States, and 360,000,000 tons have passed from Canadian ports to Canadian ports, doing the coasting trade of Canada.

In 1895 the number of light-stations was 632, of lighthouses 768, of fog whistles 22, and of automatic fog horns 37.

CANADA. 1895.

The total cost of maintaining the lighthouses, light-stations, &c., in 1895 was \$457,548.

101. The total number of vessels on the Registry Books of Canada on 31st December 1895 was 7,262, with a tonnage of 919,162 tons.

		Number.	Gross Tonnage.	Registered Tonnage.	Number.	Total Tonnage.
Steamers -	-	1,718	247,007	-	1,718	247,007
Sailing vessels	•	5,544	0 BL 1	672,155	5,544	672,155
Total	-				7,262	919,162

Compared with 1883, steamers have increased 712 in number and 43,468 tons in tonnage.

Sailing vessels have decreased 824 in number and 469,027 a tonnage.

The net decrease in the period has been 112 in number and 425,559 in tons.

Vessels Built and Registered in Canada.

Year.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1895	250	16,270

102. Sea-going Shipping entered and cleared at Canadian Ports, 1885 and 1895.

1885.

Flag.			Number of Vessels.	Tons Registered.	Tons weighed.	Freight. Tons measured.	Number of Men.
British			3,219	3,007,314	1,104,157	509,343	89,596
Canadian -			10,512	1,588,894	591,526	860,450	76,920
Foreign	•	•	7,461	3,048,407	530,788	853,902	127,954
Total			21,192	7,644,615	2,226,471	2,223,695	294,470

1895.

		Flag.		Number of Vessels.	Tons registered.	Tons weighed.	Freight. Tons measured.	Number of Men.
British				3,206	3,994,224	1,739,873	771,425	105,225
Canadian				12,918	2,054,024	755,930	781,414	112,272
				11,752	4,928,581	1,161,441	864,902	212,436
	T	otal		27,876	10,976,829	3,657,244	2,417,741	429,963

103. Shipping arrived at and departed from Canadian Ports on Inland Waters, between Canada and the United States.

1885.

Flag.	Number of Vessels.	Tons registered.	Tons weighed.	Freight. Tons measured.	Number of Men.
Canadian	 18,126	4,849,856	1,163,459	621,743	193,243
United States -	 11,033	1,590,241	582,266	307,685	75,343
Total	29,959	6,440,097	1,745,725	929,428	268,586
		1895.			
Canadian - •	. 16,866	5,196,811	863,343	261,030	249,079
United States -	 15,547	2,927,323	870,771	257,143	136,574
Total	32,413	8,124,134	1,734,114	518,173	385,653

104. Shipping engaged in Coasting Trade of the Dominion. Arrived and Departed, 1885 and 1895.

1885.

	Brit	ish.			For	reign.	
Ste	eamers.	Sailing Vessels		Vessels. Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
No. 34,653	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage. 3,128,340	No.	Tonnage.	No. 98	Tonnage. 27,410
			18	395.			
60,132	20,731,042	57,070	4,474,091	243	133,832	1,084	134,469

		4		Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crew.
Totals for 18	385		-	82,148	15,944,422	779,360
" 18	395	•	-	118,529	25,473,434	1,279,185

105. There are four graving docks in Canada, three belonging to the Federal Government and one to a private company.

The following statement shows the dimensions of these graving

docks :-

Nar	Name.		Length.	Width at		Water	Rise of		
			Dong til.	Coping.	Entrance.	Bottom.	on Sills.*	Spring Tide.	Neap Tide.
Esquimalt			ft. 430	ft. 90	ft. 65	ft. 41	ft. 26½	ft. 7 to 10	ft. 5 to 8
Kingston			280	79	55	47	161	+	-
Levis -			445	100	62	73	251	26½	201
Halifax		-	585	102	891	72	30	6	3

^{*} At ordinary spring tide.

106. Post Offices, &c.

NUMBER of POST OFFICES, EXTENT OF POST ROUTES, REVENUE, and EXPENDITURE of DEPARTMENT, including Amounts expended for Transportation of the Mail for 1895.

Post Extent of		Revenue of	Expend	Total Expenditure	
Offices.	Post Routes.	Department.	Domestic Mail.	Foreign Mail.	of the Department.
No. 8,832	Miles. 65,325	\$ 3,815,456	\$ 2,175,711	\$ 450,665	\$ 4,616,313

Railway Mail Service, 1895.

Total	Railways	Annual		ay Mail ortation.	Railway Mail Service.		
Railways in Operation in Canada.	upon which Mail was carried.	Transportation of Mail by Railways.	Annual Cost of	Average Annual Cost per Mile.	No. of Employés.	Annual Expenditure	
Miles. 15,977	Miles. 14,463	Miles. 14,836,735	\$ 1,241,115	Cents. 8,037	No. 425	\$ \$90,184	

[†] Height of water in LakelOntario varies 31 ft.

Estimated Number of Letters, &c. carried, 1895.

Letters.				Newspapers and Periodicals		Parcels,	
Registered.	Free.	Total.	Post Cards sent.	Posted from Office of Publishers.	Posted otherwise, including Books and Circulars.	Domestic and Foreign.	Total.
No. 3,183,200	No. 4,441,000	No. 107,565,000	No. 24,025,000	No. 70,235,446	No. 25,58 3, 000	No. 357,760	No. 96,176,206

. 107. POSTAL MONEY ORDER SYSTEM in CANADA, 1895.

Offices Ord	Number of	Orders Amount	Amount of Orders issued in other Countries and payable in Canada.	Orders issued in Canada and payable in Canada.			
	issued.			Great Britain.	United States.	Other Countries	
No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
1,261	1,092,052	13,187,322	2,055,984	1,306,296	2,796,405	403,957	

TELEGRAPHS and CABLES, 1895.

108. Telegraphs.

The second secon	Miles of Line.	Miles of Wire.	Number of Messages.	Number of Offices.
Company:— Mainland	28,815	68,244	4,024,299	2,556
Prince Edward Island	385	403	-	32

	Miles Land Lines.	Miles Cables.	Total Miles.
GOVERNMENT	2,486	238	2,724

The Government lines are used by the Government (a) for purposes connected with quarantine; (b) with the fisheries and (c) the fisheries protection service. Daily reports are sent

from 55 stations in connection with the fisheries to one central station.

CANADA. 1895.

The total cable lines within the Dominion comprise 2971 miles.

109. TELEPHONES.

Miles of Wire.	Instruments.	Messages.
44,000	33,500	72,500,000

110. FINANCE.

Analysis of the Principal of the Public Debt of Canada, July 1st, 1895.

Total Debt and Assets.

20000	2000	<i>ana</i> 110000.		\$
Total gross debt		Hard on 1910	-	318 048,755
Assets:				
Sinking funds	-		-	35,359,088
Other investments	-		-	5,487,462
Province accounts	-	SANTER CAR	-	10,923,487
Miscellaneous	-		-	14,203,790
Total assets	•	i destruction	-	64,973,828
Net debt				253,074,927
				Turner of the second
	De	ebt.		
Debt paying 3 per	cen	t. interest	_	52,477,715
31	,,	35	-	71,938,812
,, 4	"	"	_	147,038,124
,, 5	23	99	-	24,712,925
,, 6	99	>>	-	1,368,831
Total interest	-bear	ring debt	-	297,536,407
Total non-interest	bear	ing debt		20,512,348
Interest charge for	fisca	l year 1894-	-5	10,466,294
Interest received f			-	1,136,047
Net interest charge	e	-	-	9,130,247
Funded debt:				
Payable in London	, 5 p	er cent.	-	2,433,333
,,	4	3)	-	140,856,596
"	$3\frac{1}{2}$	"	-	24,333,333
,,	3	"	-	50,602,241
Total -			•	218,225,503

					\$
Payable in	Canada,	6 per	cent.	-	130,900
The section ,		5	"	-	485,297
,		4	,,	-	6,180,728
):		$3\frac{1}{2}$	"	-	298,700
Totaļ	-		-		7,095,625
Total	funded de	ebt	-	-	225,321,128
Savings Ba	anks,	$3\frac{1}{2}$ p	er cent.	-	44,450,499
Province	accounts,	5	"	-	16,407,032
Trust acco	unts, 6 pe	er cen	ıt.	-	1,105,220
,,	5	"			5,400,604
,,	$3\frac{1}{2}$	"		-	1,882,396
"	3	"		-	1,875,474
Total	trust acco	ounts	-		10,263,694
Compensat	ion to seig	nors,	6 per c	ent.	131,387
Dominion	_		-	Duy-	19,520,233
Provincial	,,		- 100	1. 1-1	39,520
Miscellane	ous (intere	est va	rying)	****	1,915,262
Total	debt, 1st	July	1895	-	318,048,755

111. The total loans authorised from foundation to 30th June 1895, amount to \$246,707,150, of which \$13,121,015 were unexpended and not issued. \$152,744,917 were expended on railways and canals; \$803,044 on telegraphs; \$6,008,750 on immigration; and \$72,140,932 on harbours, rivers, lighthouses, public works, public buildings, defence, &c.

112. RECEIPTS and their Sources.

Customs Revenue.—1895.

	Duties	on Mercl	handise.				Duties Collected
class A.—Articles	of food	and live s	stock :—				\$
Animals			-	-		-	33,207
Breadstuffs -			-	-	17	-	308,125
Cocoanuts, pas	te, &c.			-		-	36,606
Fish -	-		-			-	65,844
Fruits, includir	ng nuts	-		-	-		509,572
Provisions, inc	190,237						
Pickles and sau			-	3,4	/ =		35,668
Rice -		- 196		-		-	142,400
Spices -	-			-	-	-	26,706
Salt				-		-	5,873
Sugar and mol	asses	_			-	-	365,796
Vegetables -	-	-			-	-	51,445
All other articl	les -		•		-	-	66,577
		Total, C	lass A.			-	1,838,056

Duties on Mer	chandise				Duties collected
Class B.—Articles in a crude cond various processes of domestic ind			ter into	the	\$
Coal	ustry:—	Total Sales			OTH COE
Seeds				100	877,625
All other articles	•		Marine L		47,648
All other articles				14	55,750
Total C	lass B.	2 - F	arkarii.	la.	981,023
lass C.—Articles wholly or partial materials in the manufacture of m	lly manuechanica	factured	for us	se as	
Carriages, parts of	-	-	-4	-	36,367
Cement	-		7.3-10	-	81,068
Cottons		-	-	-	134,642
Drugs, chemicals, &c	-			-	280,471
Furs, partially dressed -	-			-	78,784
Hops				-	52,339
Iron and steel				-	815,878
Lead	-				30,979
Leather					130,933
Oils		1000			587,534
Paints and colours					49,757
Post Office parcels -	TO THE	19 111	h the tra	PA LEG	90,859
Woollens	the Circumstance	Transition of			56,608
All other articles					143,079
Total C	lass C.			-	2,569,298
ass D.—Manufactured articles rea		onsumn	tion :—		
Books and other printed matter	-	-		-	208,161
Braces and suspenders -					24,859
Brass and manufactures of		are a share			86,567
Brooms and brushes -					
Buttons					21,649
					37,588
Carriages Clocks and clock cases -				-	169,764
				(26,287
Combs		150		-	27,770
Cottons				- 1	1,020,648
Earthenware and china -	atria ha	44	-	-	165,458
Electric light apparatus and ele	ectric ba	tteries &	.c	-	80,176
Express parcels of small value		100			59,360
Flax manufactures -	•	-		-	297,713
Glass and manufactures -	-	-	- '	-	301,174
Gloves and mitts	-	-	-	-	220,947
Gunpowder	- 0	-	-	-	38,470
Gutta-percha and India-rubber	manufac	tures	-	-	123,458
Hats, caps, and bonnets -		-		-	358,621
Iron and steel	-	-	-	-	1,061,639
Leather manufactures -	-		-	4-4-	109,187
Furniture, all kinds—cabinet, o	ffice, and	d house	•	-	78,984
Metal manufactures -	-		-	- 1	73,043
Oil cloth	-	-	-		43,161
Optical instruments -	-	-	-	-	22,193
Packages		-	-	-	78,655
Paper manufactures -	4.5			-	302,891
Soap	-		-	-	62,749
Tobacco pipes	17-14		-	1	46,701
Twine, all kinds	-	A PARTY	1012 102		24,827
Umbrellas and parasols -					67,965
Varnish, &c					20,974
Watches, &c		No. Law			42,013
Wood manufactures -		DES			
Woollen manufactures -					97,108
All other articles	200				2,236,206 523,059
Total Cl					8,160,025

CANADA.
1895.

Dut	ies on	Merc	handise.				Duties collected
Class E.—Articles of vo	\$						
Ale, beer, and porte	r				_	-	50,246
Collars of cotton an		and	Cuffs		_	-	26,334
Curtains -					_	-	78,604
Carpets -				14	-	-	254,091
Cotton fabrics and e	mbroid	dered.	&c.	WALL D		-	92,693
Fancy goods		- ′			-	_	453,209
Gold and silver man	ufactu	res. ie	ewelry.	&с.			170,145
Musical instruments		_					82,715
Perfumery, pomade							11,426
Silk manufactures						-	675,097
Spirits and wines		_				_	2,090,513
Tobacco -					_	-	263,281
All other articles		-	-	-	-	-	90,513
	Tot	tal Cl	ass E.			-	4,338,867

Value of Imports—Dutiable and Free—and Duties collected in the above-mentioned Classes.

	Class	es.		Dutiable.	Free.	Duties collected.
				\$	\$	\$
A.		_	-	7,817,389	11,717,488	1,838,056
B .	26,28	-	-	4,081,054	18,004,722	981,023
C.	100 200	_	-	10,054,945	6,775,942	2,569,298
D.			-	28,398,959	5,241,256	8,160,025
E.	111-11	-	-	8,205,308	378,928	4,338,867
	Totals			58,557,655	42,118,236	17,887,269

Internal Revenue.

	-					Amount.
Tax collected on :—						\$
Spirits		-	-		-	3,873,002
Tobacco and cigars -		-	-	-		3,009,888
Malt liquor			-		-	5,885
Malt		10 200			-	707,075
Petroleum inspection		-	19-14	-	-	41,389
Bonded manufactures				-	-	47,609
Other receipts -	-		-	-	-	26,431
Methylated spirits -		-	-	•	-	99,647
Total inte	rnal rev	enue	-			7,810,926

Postal Service.

						\$	
Revenue	•		•	-	-	3,815,456	

Miscellaneous.

CANADA. 1895.

Casual Cullers fees -						Amount.
Cullers fees -						\$
					-	89,145
D		-		14 . 3	200	7,107
Dominion lands			-		-	167,870
,, steamers						9,535
Fines, forfeitures, and se	eizures -				-	22,469
Gas inspection and law					-	23,842
Interest on investments		100	-100		-	1,336,047
Insurance superintenden	ice -	-		1100		9,794
Imperial contribution to		and -		1	-	4,815
Militia	- 70		7-1-18	-	-	39,445
Ordnance lands -						22,646
Patent fees -				-		94,603
Penitentiaries -		-			-	24,624
Public works, including	railways	and canals	-	-	-	3,591,689
Premium and discount					-	18,876
Steamboat inspection	-				-	25,093
Superannuation -		A 173 - 12	-			63,275
Tonnage dues -	-	-	-		-	42,715
Weights and measures		200			-	39,433
Miscellaneous -		7 17.02			-	11,148
Fisheries -		•	•		-	94,970
Total					-	5,739,141

113. EXPENDITURES and their OBJECTS.

Objects.

						\$
Charges on public debt -			-		-	12,747,556.02
Post offices	- 10	- 2 - 1	-	-		4,616,313.50
Subsidies to provinces -	- 110				-	4,250,674.46
Railways and canals (including	collect	ion reve	nue)		-	3,956,842.48
Public works (including collect	ion exp	enses)		-	-	1,894,015.11
Militia and defence -	• 1 to 1		-		-	1,574,013.76
Civil Government -	-	•	-		-	1,422,227.97
Indians	-	•	-		-	955,403.77
Legislation	-				-	941,570.41
Customs (collection of revenue)		· 19 1		-	917,632.39
Administration of justice	-			-	-	755,682.97
Mounted police					-	646,125.17
Mail subsidies and steamship su	abventio	ns	•	-	-	513,268.03
Lighthouse and coast service	•		-			475,903.32
						The state of the s

					Amount.
					\$
Excise (collection of revenue) -	-	-		-	471,864.90
Penitentiaries	_			-	449,599.81
Fisheries	_	-		-	443,822.95
North-West territories	_			-	303,626.74
Superannuation			-	-	265,385.77
Arts, agriculture, and statistics -	-			-	216,740.30
Ocean and river service			-	-	205,092.65
Immigration	_		-	-	195,652.97
Geological survey and observatories	_			-	145,392.97
Dominion lands (collection of revenue)				-	129,727.51
Quarantine			1	-	101,320.11
Weights and measures				-	98,173.67
Miscellaneous				-	461,041.37
Historianeous				Should.	
Total -				-	39,154,671.08

114. PROVINCIAL DEBT, 1895.

Province.	-	Gross Debt.	Net Debt.
		\$	\$
Quebec	-	32,057,554	18,207,942
Nova Scotia -	-	3,346,899	1,988,094
New Brunswick -	-	2,912,987	2,321,413
Manitoba -	-	4,679,794	*
British Columbia	-	6,499,688	3,424,677

^{*} The assets of Manitoba amount to \$7,146,031.

The Province of Ontario has railway liabilities, payable in the future extending over 30 years, amounting to \$1,699,229, and has a surplus of assets over liabilities presently payable of \$5,078,981.

PROVINCIAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1895.

Province.		Receipts.	Expenditure
		\$	\$
Quebec	-	4,221,687	4,189,983
Ontario	-	3,585,300	3,758,595
Nova Scotia -		835,455	831,230
New Brunswick -		687,437	684,635
Manitoba -	-	703,172	704,946
British Columbia	-	896,025	1,906,924
P. E. Island -		277,314	310,177

Among the receipts of each province is the subsidy paid under the Union Act (1867) by the Federal Government and certain allowances under Acts relative to the readjustment of the debts contracted by the provinces previous to Confederation.

115. YEARLY SUBSIDIES AND ALLOWANCES.

CANADA. 1895.

			\$
-		-	1,339,287.28
-			1,086,713.48
-		-	432,812.82
-	-	-	483,569.68
•	-	-	482,593.34
-	-		242,689.46
sland		-	221,051.98
Total		-	4,288,718.04
	sland	sland -	sland

116. FIRE INSURANCE, 1895.

		\$
Gross amount of risks taken	-	672,622,324
Premiums charged thereon -	-	8,274,746
Net cash received for premiums	-	6,986,925
Losses paid (net cash)	-	5,019,514
Total amount of risk -	-	827,184,368

117. LIFE INSURANCE, 1895.

		\$
Amount effected during year	-	144,781,584
" in force 1895 -	-	319,781,939
Income premiums	-	10,312,499
Total amount paid to policy holde	rs	5,516,929
Total amount of premiums received for all kinds of insurance, fire, linaccident, &c.	fe,	18,808,693
The deposits held by the Dominic Government for the protection policy-holders, 22nd July 1895	on of	28,020,737
Distributed as follows:—		
Fire and inland marine -	-	5,893,535
Life	-	21,440,009
Accident, guarantee, &c	-	687,193
Total -		28,020,737

CANADA. 1895

118. REGIMENTAL ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE PERMANENT AND ACTIVE MILITIA OF CANADA, 1895.

Permanent.

		Officers.	Staff Sergeants and Sergeants.	Rank and File.	Horses.
Royal Canadian Drago	ons -	10	19	140	101
,, Artille	ery -	21	42	403	69
" Infant	ry -	24	50	518	-
Total		55	111	1,061	170

Active Militia.

		Officers.	Sergeants.	Rank and File.	Horses.
Cavalry -		193	231	1,654	1,904
Artillery field -	-	102	121	1,122	495
" garrison		156	126	2,038	
Engineers -		9	10	132	-
Infantry -		2,527	1,889	24,503	351
Total -		2,987	2,377	29,449	2,750
Grand total		3,042	2,488	30,510	2,920

The number of men available for active service in Canada between the ages of 18 and 45 is about a million.

The amount expended upon the militia and defence of Canada from Confederation to June 30th, 1895, is \$36,684,034.

119. MOUNTED POLICE.

Strength of force 30th November 1895, 774; of whom 658 were constables and 53 scouts.

The North-West Territories in which the mounted police do patrol duty are divided into eight divisions, including the depot, and these are subdivided into eighty-three stations.

120. EDUCATION.

CANADA. 1895.

Public, High, Normal, and Model Schools of Canada, 1895.

			No.
-			17,167
			966
-	-	-	20,081
			5,392
	-		923,660
	-	-	121,099
universitie	s, colle	eges,	
L. LAND	-	•	12,715
l pupils			1,057,474
			\$
vernment		-	2,820,732
-	-	-	6,131,048
			8,323,097
	- l pupils	pupils -	

INSANE.

121. The number of insane in Canada in 1891, as obtained by the Census of 1891, was 13,355, of whom 7,162 were males and 6,193 females.

de ogloo lemmos.					
The insane classif	fied according	to civi	l condition	n we	ere :-
Single -	-	-	-	-	9,506
Married	4	-	- 4	-	2,815
Widowed		-		-	721
Unknown	-	•	-	-	313
	By	Ages.			
Under 15 year	s -	-		-	762
Between 15 an		-		-/-	701
,, 20 and	d 29 "			_	2,429
" 30 an	d 39 "	-	-		2,643
,, 40 an			-	-	5,369
70 an	d over -			-	878
Ages unknown					576
	By Na	tivity.			
Born in Canada	of parents be	oth born	n in Cana	ida-	5,953
,,	,, 0	ne of	whom	was	
		born	in Canad	a -	612
,,	,, 0:	f for	eign - b	orn	
		paren		-	2,793
	birth of plac	es of	parents	un-	
	known	-	W. Halbago.		1,053
Foreign-born in	sane -		CR - T	-	3,044

There are 17 asylums in Canada for the care of the insane. The system adopted is in most instances the State cure. In the Province of Quebec the insane are under the management of the religious associations, subject to inspection by Provincial Government officers.

DEAF AND DUMB.

122. By the Census of 1891 there were 4,189 deaf and dumb persons in Canada, of whom 2,590 were males and 2,229 were females.

Classified according to civil condition they were :-

			Males.	Females.
Single -	•	-	1,929	1,751
Married -		-	252	330
Widowed	•	-	108	148
Unknown			1	

By Ages.

		Males.	Females
Under 15 years -	-	552	500
15 to 19 " -		289	281
20 to 29 " -	-	525	467
30 to 39 " -	-	340	276
40 to 69 " -	-	646	515
70 years and over	-	237	183
Age unknown -	-	1	7

By Nativity.

Native born	of native-born parents	•	-	3,215
,,	with one parent native	born		384
	of foreign parents -	-		613
Foreign born		-	-	653

BLIND.

123. By the Census of 1891 the blind in Canada numbered 3,368, of whom 1,839 were males and 1,529 females.

Classified according to civil condition:-

CANADA. 1895.

			Males.	Females.
Single -			813	616
Married -		-	746	380
Widowed		-	278	532
Unknown	-/-		2	1

By Ages.

			Males.	Females.
Under 15	years -	-	170	122
15 to 19	" -	-	. 85	66
20 to 24	" "	* -	94	70
25 to 44	" -		357	238
45 to 64	" -		361	326
65 to 84	,, -	-	562	521
85 and over		-	106	173
Not given		-	4	3

By Nativity.

INDIANS.

124. The number of Indians in Canada in 1895 was 102,273, being an increase of 5,048 over 1894.

The total number of Indian pupils on the school rolls in 1893 was 8,349. The average attendance is 58.59 per cent. of the total number on the rolls.

The number of industrial boarding schools for Indians is 46. The expenditure on account of Indians in 1895 was:—

PATENT OFFICE.

12	25. Business of the P	Patent Off	fice in	fiscal	year	ended Ju	ne
	, 1895.						
	Applications for pate	ents	-	-		3,387	
	Patents -		-	-	-	3,074	
	Certificates -		-	-	-	422	
	Totals -		-	-	-	3,496	
	Caveats -	-	-	-	-	343	
	Assignments of pater	nts	-	-	-	1,550	
	Fees received		-	-	- 8	\$86,358	
	Conv	DIGITES	&c 1	895			
	COPY	RIGHTS,	œc., 1	.000.			
	Copyrights registered	1		•		601	
	Trade-marks ,,		-	-	-	374	
	Industrial designs re	gistered	-	-	-	52	
	Timber marks registe	ered		-	-	20	
	Total number of regi	istrations			-	1,047	
	", ", cer	tifications	3	-	-	609	
	Assignments register			-	7 -	70	
	Fees received		-	-	- :	\$11,673	
	196 (RIMINAL	STATE	CTTCS			
	120. C	KIMINAL	DIAL	DITON.			
	C	Conviction	s, 1895.				
	1. Offences against t	he persor	1	-		4,652	
		roperty,	with vic	lence		461	
	2. " p	roperty,	without	violen	ce -	3,803	
	3. " p	oporoj,			1.30	200	

1. Offences against the person - 4,652
2. property, with violence - 461
3. property, without violence - 3,803
4. Malicious offences against property - 390
5. Forgery and offences against the currency - 61
6. Other offences not included in above - 28,218

Total - - - - 37,585

For complete information on many points which have been merely touched upon, and on others which are not even mentioned, the reader is referred to the "Statistical Year Book" of Canada.

GEORGE JOHNSON F.S.S., Dominion Statistician.

^{*} This is an official publication by the Government Statistician, published annually, and may be obtained through the High Commissioner, 17, Victoria Street, London, England.

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INDUSTRIES OF CANADA.

CANADA. 1895.

MECHANICAL AND MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS.

The census definition of an industrial establishment is:

Any place where one or several persons are engaged in manufacturing, altering, making up, or changing from one shape into another, materials for sale, use or consumption.

The following is the general statement of the results obtained for the year 1891; the previous census returns for 1881 being given for purposes of comparison for all the provinces, and those for 1871 for the four provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick.

INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

1				Capital			Hands employed.						Total		
	Province.	No. of Establish- ments.		Fixed in World		Working.	Total.	Over 16	Over 16 years.		Under 16 Years.		Amount of Wages paid.	Value of Raw Materials.	Value of Articles Produced.
			Lands.	Buildings.	Machinery.			Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	paru.		
	British Columbia 1891	770	\$ 2,153,106	\$ 1,836,650	\$ 3,256,906	\$ 7,157,732	\$ 14,404,394	9,615	1,331	404	157	11,507	\$ 3,586,897	\$ 5,119,258	\$ 11,999,928
	, - 1881	415	-	-	-	-	2,946,435	2,601	37	219	4	2,861	928,813	1,273,816	2,926,784
	Manitoba 1891	1,031	380,244	912,431	1,829,726	2,561,836	5,684,237	3,729	541	102	31	4,403	1,905,981	5,688,151	10,155,182
	, 1881	344	-	-	-	-	1,383,331	1,673	75	158	15	1,921	755,507	1,924,821	3,413,026
	New Brunswick - 1891	5,429	981,906	3,404,732	5,630,599	5,804,618	15,821,855	19,513	4,750	1,844	568	26,675	5,970,914	12,501,453	23,849,655
	, - 1881	3,005	-	-	-	-	8,425,282	15,982	1,400	2,207	333	19,922	3,866,011	11,060,842	18,512,658
	1871	3,829		-	-	-	5,978,974	14,936	1,643	1,974	154	18,707	3,854,313	9,428,583	17,333,973
	Nova Scotia 1891	10,496	1,655,562	4,072,756	5,003,949	9,089,719	19,821,986	25,784	2,040	6,566	625	34,965	7,240,611	16,099,229	31,043,392
	, 1887	5,493	-	-	-	-	10,183,060	17,335	870	2,051	4	20,390	4,098,445	10,022,030	18,575,326
	,, - 187	4,895	_	1 -	_	-	6,044,241	13,387	925	952	171	15,435	3,176,834	5,764,185	2,269,964

1895	CANAD
	A.

Ontario -		- 1891	32,151	15,548,335	27,638,719	38,364,178	94,420,789	175,972,021	123,137	7,872	32,835	2,482	166,326	49,733,359	128,142,371	239,781,926
n		1881	23,070	-	-		-	80,712,347	91,458	7,004	17,738	2,077	118,277	30,587,331	91,174,756	158,045,669
"		- 1871	20,961	- 1	-	-	-	38,254,602	71,325	6,114	11,120	1,378	89,937	21,679,651	65,780,827	115,649,747
Quebec		- 1891	23,037	10,421,653	21,718,806	26,308,945	59,841,711	118,291,115	84,936	6,537	22,898	3,018	17,389	30,699,115	85,630,496	153,195,583
,,		- 1881	15,763	-	-	34-	-	59,126,992	60,140	5,010	17,748	2,775	85,673	18,322,962	62,563,967	104,662,258
,		- 1871	14,079		_		-	27,960,122	49,139	5,009	9,652	,792	,592	12,370,374	44,676,331	76,832,610
P. E. Island -		1891	2,679	216,868	490,443	673,598	1,531,054	2,911,963	5,766	643	1,309	192	7,910	1,101,620	2,092,067	4,345,910
,, .		- 1881	1,617	-		-		2,075,476	4,515	303	880	6	5,767	807,208	1,829,210	3,400,208
The Territorie	es -	1891	375	108,650	228,506	* 333,346	1,042,677	1,713,179	994	34	0	3	1,081	425,153	846,017	1,827,310
,,		1881	24	-	_	-	-	104,500	80	2	1	\ -	83	35,425	79,751	195,938
. Totals		1891	75,968	31,466,324	60,303,043	81,401,247	181,450,136	354,620,750	273,424	23,748	66,008	7,076	370,256	100,663,650	256,119,042	476,198,886
Totals		1881	49,731	-			-	164,957,423	193,784	14,701	41,002	5,407	254,894	59,401,702	179,929,193	309,731,867

Arranged according to character of industry the industrial stablishments of Canada are as under:—

	No. of Establish- ments.	Capital.	No. of Employées.	Wages paid in Census Year.	Value of Output Census Year.
Arms and ammunition:		\$		\$	\$
1891	54	1,107,011	495	175,394	1,105,205
1881	41	189,650	146	62,847	309,755
Books and stationery, printing and publishing:					
1891	723	10,540,431	9,906	3,875,543	10,553,487
1881	489	5,619,810	7,975	2,256,055	6,792,830
Carriages, railway rolling stock &c.:					
1391	3,384	10,918,285	14,642	5,369,946	19,711,581
1881	3,168	5,443,893	11,939	3,583,327	10,588,847
Chemicals:					
1891	733	4,138,127	2,895	981,628	5,505,419
1881	350	1,385,819	981	324,193	2,452,771
Drinks and stimulants:					
1891	769	27,430,074	10,938	3,642,242	33,729,826
1881	538	10,231,321	7,294	2,054,832	20,078,306
Fibrous material:	KANT		THE ACT		
1891	248	3,235,325	2,961	627,258	3,448,971
1881	60	962,550	1,385	263,925	1,258,472
Foods:—Vegetable (flour mills bakeries, &c.):					
1891	4,638	31,342,768	16,573	5,002,553	69,806,988
1881	3,950	17,777,022	19,111	3,810,662	54,282,140
Foods:—Animal (cheese and butter factories, &c.):					
1891	7,280	11,339,570	34,622	3,406,339	25,804,305
1881	988	2,568,129	3,176	622,141	9,890,065
Furniture, houses, and buildings:					
1891	3,738	18,213,155	19,183	6,514,756	24,993,361
1881	3,095	7,492,908	12,809	3,423,150	13,777,335
Gold and silver working:	Harry				
1891	691	2,987,131	1,923	780,332	3,090,501
1881	359	668,616	948	304,942	1,175,591
Leather (boots and shoes):					
1891		18,891,585	25,699	7,555,370	35,169,742
1881	6,813	14,321,034	27,513	6,722,730	36,505,272
Lighting (gas, electric, oil refineries, &c.):					
1891	226	21,335,314	3,894	1,259,165	7,485,721
1881	108	7,874,037	2,169	611,769	5,843,616
Machines, tools, implements plumbing, tinsmithing, &c.:					
1891	12,631	55 598,434	49,422	17,815,445	62,016,178
1881	10,446	27,169,043	37,274	11,067,787	36,654,109

	No. of Establish- ments.	Capital.	No. of Employées.	Wages paid in Census Year.	Value of Output Census Year.
Matters:—Animal, brushmaking, soap and candles, taxidermy, &c.:	11 3 1600	8	olu ()		
1891	256	1,630,737	1,516	524,836	3,379,381
1881	192	1,446,423	1,552	398,912	2,904,274
Matters:—Vegetable, basket making, carpentering, sawmills, cooperage, &c.:			1 120	abo Jar	
1891	14,781	78,554,531	83,328	21,404,809	84,638,742
1881	11,102	84,145,436	60,316	11,989,290	-
Mathematical instruments, optical, spectacles, surgical:					
1891	18	47,555	52	19,410	74,975
1881	10	81,900	74	23,180	66,200
Musical instruments:			A		
1891	92	2,389,633	2,204	973,223	3,393,213
1881	44	669,379	941	417,833	1,220,195
Ships and boats			THE STATE OF	×	
1891	669	2,555,951	4,145	1,213,122	3,712,462
1881	539	2,899,752	5,271	1,339,956	4,319,070
Stone, clay, glass, marble and stone cutting. Potteries, brick and tile:					
1891	1,314	8,362,255	12,608	3,580,620	10,221,207
1881	989	2,515,347	7,726	1,752,005	4,600,297
Cextile fabrics and dress cotton mills, millinery, weaving, woollen mills, &c.		i sirra	MI own	oni.	
1891	15,458	43,056,154	71,827	15,547,726	67,172,034
1881	6,265	20,198,835	44,337	7,716,226	40,808,843
Miscellaneous:	MILO DITO	dodur 1	PE CALL		47.1.1
1891	487	932,404	1,498	348,433	1,161,617
The state of the s					

Divided into groups on the basis of output, the mechanical and manufacturing establishments of Canada show the following results:—

Establishments having an annual output of \$50,000 and over.

Number of establishments, 1891 - 1,675

"" 1881 - 1,108

Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 567

Increase per cent., 51·17.

Capital invested, 1891 - 207 147,467

"" 1881 - 84,961,653

Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 122,185,814

Increase per cent., \$143·8.

O 95450.

CANADA. 1895.	Number of employées, 1891 139 080 ,, 1881 83,525										
	Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 55,555										
	Increase per cent., 66.5.										
	In 1881 employées in this group formed 32.7 per cent. of the total number of employées in all the groups. In 1891 they formed 37.5 per cent.										
	Wages paid, 1891 46,842,64 ,, 1881 23,964,79										
	Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 22,877,844										
	Increase per cent., \$95.5.										
	Wages per employé, 1891 336·80 ,, 1881 286·91										
	Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 49.89										
	Increase per cent., \$17.40.										
	Value of raw material used, 1891 - 155,460,492 ,, 1881 - 96,361,536										
	Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 59,098,956										
	Increase per cent., \$61.33.										
	Value of manufactured articles produced, \$ 1891 260,795,190										
	" " 1881 <u>153,767,771</u>										
	Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 107,027,419										
	Increase per cent., \$69.7.										
	Establishments having an output of from \$25,000 to \$50,000.										
	Number of establishments, 1891 1,208 " 1881 - 966										
	Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 242										
	Increase per cent., 25.										
	Capital invested, 1891 30,152,282 ,, 1881 16,142,662										
	Increase, 1891 over 14,009,620										
	Increase per cent., \$86.8.										

	339 386
Increase, 1891 over 1881 5,9	953
Increase per cent., 26.6.	
Wages paid, 1891 8,966,8	099
Wages paid, 1891 8,966,8 ,, 1881 5,942,9	
Increase, 1891 over 1881 3,023,9	952
Increase per cent., \$50.9.	
	\$
Wages per employé, 1891 316 ,, 1881 265	
Increase, 1891 over 1881 50	94
Increase per cent., \$19.15.	W.
\$	
Value of raw material used, 1891 22,090,4 ,, 1881 19,885,8	
Increase, 1891 over 1881 2,204,	628
Increase per cent., \$11·10.	
Value of manufactured articles produced, \$1891 42,238,8	
Value of manufactured articles produced, \$\\ 1891 \\ 42,238,6\\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\	170
Value of manufactured articles produced, \$\\\ 1891 \\ 42,238,8\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	170
Value of manufactured articles produced, \$\\\ 1891 \\ 42,238,8\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	170 372
Value of manufactured articles produced, 1891 42,238,5 33,482,5 Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 8,756,5 Increase per cent., \$26.15. Establishments having an output under \$25,000 a year.	170 372
Value of manufactured articles produced, \$\\\ 1891 \\ 42,238,8\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	170
Value of manufactured articles produced, 1891 42,238,8 " 1881 33,482,3 Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 8,756,8 Increase per cent., \$26.15. Establishments having an output under \$25,000 a ye Number of establishments, 1891 - 73,6 " 1881 - 47,4	170
Value of manufactured articles produced, 1891 42,238,8 " 1881 33,482,3 Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 8,756,8 Increase per cent., \$26.15. Establishments having an output under \$25,000 a ye Number of establishments, 1891 - 73,6 " 1881 - 47,4	170
Value of manufactured articles produced, 1891 42,238,8 " 1881 33,482,3 Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 8,756,3 Increase per cent., \$26.15. Establishments having an output under \$25,000 a ye Number of establishments, 1891 - 73,9 " 1881 - 47,9 Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 25,4	170
Value of manufactured articles produced, 1891 42,238,8 1881 33,482,3 Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 8,756,8 Increase per cent., \$26.15. Establishments having an output under \$25,000 a yellow Number of establishments, 1891 - 73, 1881 - 47, Increase, 1891 over 1881 - 25,4 Increase per cent., 33.35.	170
Value of manufactured articles produced, 1891 42,238,8 " 1881 33,482,3 Increase, 1891 over 1881 8,756,3 Increase per cent., \$26·15. Establishments having an output under \$25,000 a yet Number of establishments, 1891 73,6 " 1881 47, Increase, 1891 over 1881 25,4 Increase per cent., 33·35. Capital invested, 1891 117,321,632.53	170 372 9ar. 085 657 428 001 101

Number of employées, 1891		- 1	202,831
,, 1881		-	148,982
Increase, 1891 over 1881 -	5		53,849
Increase per cent., 36·14.			
			\$
Wages paid, 1891	-	44,8	354,177
" " 1881	•	29,4	194,025
Increase, 1891 over 1881 -	-	15,3	360,152
Increase per cent., \$52.0	8.		
			\$
Wages paid per employé, 1891 -			221.14
" 1881 -			197.10
Increase, 1891 over 1881 -		-	24.04
Increase per cent., \$12.2	2.		
			\$
Value of raw material used, 1891 -	-		68,087
" 1881 -		63,6	81,822
Increase, 1891 over 1881 -		14,8	886,265
Increase per cent., \$23.38	3.		
Value of manufactured articles produce			\$ 65,154
" " " " 188			81,926
Increase, 1891 over 1881 -	•	50,6	83,228
Increase per cent., \$41.38	3.		
The state of the s			

In 1891 there were 7,076 girls under 16 years of age and 70,280 women over 16 years employed in the manufacturing industries of Canada. In 1881 the girls so employed numbered 5,407 and the women 41,002

In 1891 the total number of males employed was 20.9 per cent. of the whole number of employées. In 1881 it was 18.2 per cent. Females under 16 years of age were 10.7 per cent. of the total females in 1891 and 13.2 per cent. in 1881.

CANADA. 1895.

In 1891, boys under 16 years formed 7:12 per cent. of the males, and in 1881 they formed 6:55 per cent.

The proportion which the older and the newer provinces of the Dominion have relatively to each other in manufacturing is shown in the following statement:—

	1881.	1891.
Number of establishments: Dominion	No. 49,731	No. 75,968
Four provinces: Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick	47,331	71,118
Newer provinces	2,400	4,855
Per cent. of newer provinces	4.82	6.30
Capital invested: Dominion	\$ 164,957,423 158,447,681	\$ 354,620,750 329,906,977
The newer provinces	6,509,742	24,713,773
Per cent. of newer provinces	3.94	7.00
Number of employées : Dominion	No. 254,894 244,262	No. 370,256 345,355
The newer provinces	10,632	24,901
Per cent. of newer provinces -	4.17	6.72
Wages paid: Dominion Four provinces	\$ 59,401,702 56,894,749	\$ 100,663,650 93,643,999
The newer provinces	2,506,953	7,019,651
Per cent. of newer provinces	4.40	6.97
Raw material used: Dominion Four provinces	179,929,193 174,821,595	256,119,042 242,373,549
The newer provinces	5,107,598	13,745,493
Per cent. of newer provinces	3.00	5.33
Finished products: Dominion Four provinces	3 09,731,867 299,795,911	476,198,886 447,870,565
The newer provinces	9,935,956	28,328,330
Per cent. of the newer provinces -	3.28	5.95

Capital invested in Manufactures in Canada per Head of Population.

NEED TO SEE				*	1881.	1891.
					\$	\$
British Columbia	-			-	59.58	147.75
Manitoba -			16 - 92	- 1	22.22	37.27
New Brunswick -	-			3	26.23	. 49.25
Nova Scotia -	-	100		-	23.11	44.01
Ontario	-				41.88	83.23
Prince Edward Island	-	_	-	-	19.06	26.70
Quebec	1,2	-		-	49.62	79.47
North-West Territories					17.31	30.35
Four provinces of Onta		uebec.	Nova Sc	otia.		
and New Brunswick	1_	_	_	- -	39.15	75.42
Canada -	50				38.14	73.37

Manufactured Articles produced in Canada per Head of Population.

					1881.	1891.
					\$	\$
British Columbia		42.17	-	-	59.18	122.23
Manitoba -			-	-	54.50	66.58
New Brunswick -					57.63	74.24
Nova Scotia -	0.0		_	-	42.16	68.92
Ontario				-	82.02	113.40
Prince Edward Island			_	100-1	31.22	39.84
Quebec	_	- X		-	77.01	102.92
North-West Territories	200			1	3.47	18.46
Four provinces of Onta	rio C	nebec. N	Jova So	eotia.		
and New Brunswick	- 9	-	_	-	74.06	102.38
Canada -	100			-	71.61	98.52

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 187.

CEYLON.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 155 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Mer Majesty.

January 1897.



LONDON:

PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1897.

[C.-8279.-11.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Color	ny.				Year.
153	Fiji					1894
154	St. Helena -	-		-		"
155	Ceylon	1-12			-	,,
1.56	Mauritius	-		-	-	,,
157	Labuan	-		-	-	"
158	Gold Coast -	-		-/	-	"
159	British Guiana -	-	-	-	-	>>
160	Sierra Leone -	-	4 4 4	-		,,
161	Jamaica		4	-	4 1-3	1894-5
162	British Honduras -				- 1	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	-	-		7.00	1894-5
164	Newfoundland -	-	-	- 1		1894
165	Gambia	- 1		-	-	,,
166	Bermuda	-	- 4		-	"
167	Leeward Islands -	-				"
168	British New Guinea	-	-			1894-5
169	Zululand	-	-			1.895
170	Sierra I eone -	-			-	"
171	Gibraltar		-	- 1	-	,,
172	Malta			-	= 1	,,
173	Barbados	-		-		,,
174	Turks and Caicos Islands		-	-		"
175	Falkland Islands -	-			-	"
176	St. Helena	-		-		"
177	Bahamas	-		- 7		>>
178	Hong Kong -	-	14 1 1		- 1	"
179	Windward Islands -	-				"
180	Labuan -	2 7	514 B	-		"
181	Trinidad and Tobago		-			,,
182	Seychelles	-		- NO	- 4	,,
183	Mauritius and Rodriguez	-	-		1	1894-5
184	British Honduras	-				1895
185	Lagos -			-		1895
186	Basutoland	- 10	•			1895-6

MISCELLANEOUS.

0.	Colony.		Colony. Sub		Subject.
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.	
	Zululand -	13	-	Forests.	
2 3	Sierra Leone			Geology and Botany.	
4	Canada -			Emigration.	
5	Bahamas -		- I	Sisal Industry.	
6	Hong Kong		-	Bubonic Plague.	
7	Newfoundland			Mineral Resources.	

No. 187.

CEYLON. 1895.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 155 of this Series.)

Sir J. WEST RIDGEWAY to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Queen's House, Colombo, Ceylon,

Sir, November 6, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the usual Report on the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1895.

I have, &c.

J. WEST RIDGEWAY.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1895.

The year under review was not marked by any incident of special importance, save that Sir Arthur Havelock's term of administration came to an end.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

2. The revenue of the Colony for the year 1895 amounted to Rs. 20,982,808, and the expenditure to Rs. 20,899,713. For the two previous years the figures were—

			Revenue.	Expenditure
			Rs.	Rs.
1893 -	-	-	18,051,950	18,276,107
1894			19,485,310	20,342,899

Revenue.

3. For the first time in the history of the Colony the revenue exceeded Rs. 20,000,000, and showed an increase of nearly one and a half million rupees over that of the previous year, which in

its turn had been the largest then recorded.

4. With the exception of Miscellaneous Receipts, all other regular heads of revenue showed an increase, the largest being those shown under Customs, Railway Receipts, and Licences. Land sales showed a slight decrease, due to the fact that Government, in view of the increasing value of land, was not anxious to push sales.

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CEYLON. 1895.

Expenditure.

5. The expenditure was some half a million rupees in excess of the previous year, but, unlike 1893 and 1894, was less than the revenue of the year. The principal increase of over Rs. 500,000 was under the head of Interest, the expenditure under this head now exceeding Rs. 3,000,000.

6. There was also a considerable increase in Military Expenditure, which amounted to some $16\frac{1}{2}$ lacs of rupees. The charge on this account has now been fixed at $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the gross revenue of the Colony, exclusive of Land S ales, which are of

course not really revenue but capital.

7. There was an increase of nearly Rs. 150,000 under the head of Post Office and Telegraphs, the expenditure on which now exceeds Rs. 800,000. The increase is mainly due to the opening of new post and telegraph offices to meet the general expansion

of business in the Colony.

8. The expenditure on account of the Medical Department, including Hospitals and Dispensaries, exceeded Rs. 1,300,000. The Educational Department cost Rs. 636,000 (an increase of Rs. 38,000 over 1894), and Police, Rs. 632,000. Prisons show a gratifying decrease of nearly Rs. 23,000, principally due to the policy of closing the smaller jails in outstations, but also to a fewer number of prisoners.

PUBLIC DEBT.

9. The sterling debt of the Colony amounted on 31st December to 3,541,223l., as against 3,563,976l. on 31st December 1894. The amount is slightly less than in 1894, though the charges for interest are greater. This is explained by the fact that the full interest on the loan of 1,000,000l. raised in 1894 was not payable until 1895.

10. The silver debt of the Colony amounted to Rs. 3,302,000,

as against Rs. 3,312,923 on 31st December 1894.

CUSTOMS AND SHIPPING.

11. The total value of the trade of the Colony for 1895 was Rs. 169,097,766, as against Rs. 157,836,662 in 1894 and Rs. 146,536,029 in 1893, showing a steadily increasing volume of trade:—

		1894.	1895.
Imports -		Rs. 78,113,072	Rs. 84,556,309
Exports -	. (- l	79,723,590	84,541,457
Total -		157,836,662	169,097,766

12. The total revenue from Customs in 1895 amounted to Rs. 5,481,595, as against Rs. 4,674,410 in 1894, an increase of nearly Rs. 850,000, or no less than 18 per cent. over the previous year, a very clear indication of the growing wealth and prosperity of the island.

13. The principal imports and exports compared with those of

1894 are as follows:-

Imports.

				1894.	1895.
Rice			bushels	7,556,505	8,722,822
Cotton goods -	-	-1	Rs.	5,236,840	5,960,856
Malt liquor, wines, &c.			"	1,376,783	1,660,741
Metals and metalware	-	-	,	1,949,537	2,427,120
Coal and coke -		-	tons	325,497	326,297
Specie	-		Rs.	9,411,949	7,986,070
Machinery -			,,	679,074	702,377

Exports.

	1-140	N 41		1894.	1895.
Coffee -			- cwt.	31,987	66,617
Cinchona -		-	- lb.	2,529,261	919,820
Tea		-	- "	85,376,322	98,581,060
Cacao			- cwt.	22,792	27,522
Cardamoms -	-	1-	- 1b.	316,863	435,090
Cocoanut Producte Coir Stuffs -	s:-		- cwt.	175,844	185,147
Poonac -		-	- "	189,959	172,401
Copperah -	•		- ,,	45,441	31,716
Cocoanut oil		2012	- gal.	448,573	418,990
Arrack -		-	- ,,	97,774	118,745
Cinnamon -			- 1b.	2,784,754	3,052,000
Citronella oil -		-	- oz.	15,724,116	15,007,730
Phumbago -	•	2.	- ewt.	335,168	326,754
Pobacco -			- "	54,850	53,240

CEYLON. 1895.

CEYLON. 1895.

- 14. The decrease in the import of intoxicating liquors, which was the subject of comment in the last two reports, has ceased, and this year's returns show a large increase in consumption of spirits, malt liquors, and wine.
- 15. The imports of specie from India decreased by nearly two million rupees. Last year there was an increase of over Rs. 4,000,000.
- 16. The increase in the import of rice still continues. It has been due to the low price of grain in 1895.

17. In respect of exports there was a large increase in the amount of tea exported, which is now very close on 100,000,000lbs.

There is a large increase in the export to the Australian Colonies, which now amounts to over 9,000,000 lb., an increase of over 2,000,000 lb. as compared with last year.

Coffee shows an encouraging recovery, the export being more than double that in 1894, and the highest since 1890, the total

value being nearly Rs. 6,000,000.

The value of the various products of the cocoanut palm was Rs. 11,106,246, as against Rs. 11,017,549 in 1894. Cacao, cinnamon, and cardamoms show an increase, whilst cinchona shows a very great decrease, and the value of the whole amount exported has fallen to Rs. 73,000 only.

18. The present year showed an increase in the value of exports to the United Kingdom, to British Colonies, and to foreign countries.

The increase over 1894 to British Colonies was but slight, and is below the figures of 1893. To the Mother Country and to

foreign countries the increase has been considerable.

The total value of goods exported to the United Kingdom was Rs. 57,475,000, as against Rs. 53,558,000 in 1894. To other countries it was a little over Rs. 20,000,000, as against some Rs. 18,000,000 last year.

Shipping.

19. The number of vessels was practically the same as in 1894, but the tonnage was greater. There was an increase at Colombo, but a decrease at Galle. The figures are as follows:—

	1	894.	1	895.
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	3,851	3,210,207	3,842	3,341,198
Cleared	3,823	3,155,646	3,826	3,201,999
Total -	7,674	6,365,853	7,668	6,543,197

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

20. The expenditure for the year, together with sundry expenditure previously incurred chargeable to Harbour Loan, amounted to Rs. 2,603,183, as against Rs. 878,443 in 1894. Of this sum Rs. 86,678 only was spent out of revenue on the maintenance of the South-West Breakwater. Rs. 1,559,662 was spent on the Harbour Extension.

The total expenditure on the Harbour from the beginning of the South-west Breakwater has been Rs. 13,006,135. The following is the statement of the revenue and expenditure, exclusive of

payments from the loan, of the Harbour for 1895:-

REVENUE.		Expenditure.			
	Rs. c.		Rs. c.		
Harbour dues Surplus overtime fees transferred	779,255 42	Principal repaid to Public Works Loan Commissioners	142,648 86		
to Harbour Fund	16,405 38	Interest paid to do	109,788		
Pilotage, &c	53,330 0	Interest on debentures, &c	347,628 68		
Rent of reclamation ground -	12,534 43	Sinking fund on debentures, &c.	82,803 53		
Single warehouse rent Rent of wharf and warehouse company's warehouses -	184,462 37 5,040 0	Interest, &c. on debentures under Ordinances Nos. of 1892 and 17 of 1893	319,846 76		
Rent of boat company's offices, &c., due to harbour fund	2,575 10	Charges incidental to management, lighting, &c. of the Port of Colombo	211,734 10		
Sundries	340 19	or coronico	211,104 10		
Total I	1,053,942 89	Total	1,214,449 97		

21. From the observations taken after the south-west monsoon it was apparent that the structure was in a thoroughly satisfactory condition. The annual soundings taken over the bed of the harbour show no signs of silting.

The dredging of the inner harbour was carried on for eight months, and the material dredged used for filling in the area that

is being reclaimed along the foreshore.

22. The Harbour Extension works were vigorously prosecuted during the past year. The workshops, offices, blockyard, cement shed, and jetty, &c., were completed, and great progress made with the reclamation of the foreshore, where accommodation is to be found for the fishermen and for a coaling depôt.

23. A beginning was made with the steel pile staging for the North-east Breakwater, but the progress at first must be slow on account of the ground on which the first two or three bays stand

being uneven rock.

PUBLIC WORKS.

24. The total expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1895 amounted to Rs. 3,455,589.50, classified as follows:

> Rs. - 412,699 40

E-tablishment

CEYLON. 1895.

Recurrent Expenditure.

		Rs.	C.
Departmental and miscellan	eous charges -	213,203	62
Upkeep of roads, bridges	, canals, and		
irrigation works -		,348,028	4
Repairs to buildings -		194,769	95

Extraordinary Expenditure.

New works and b	mildin	ora.				949.011	00
TIEW WOLKS and D	unum	gs			-	348,011	93
Alterations and a	ddition	as to	build	lings		91,597	89
New roads and	impro	veme	ent	of roa	ads		
and canals	-		-	-		413,063	98
New bridges	-	-	-		-	200,704	74
New irrigation w	orks	-	-	•		163,417	
Lands acquired	-	-	-		- 1	5,624	72
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	64,463	1

25. 3,429.83 miles of roads and the public buildings and other

works were maintained in satisfactory order.

26. The new General Post Office and the Victoria Bridge over the Kelani river were opened during the past year. They are two of the finest works ever executed by the Public Works Department in the island, and are highly successful both from an architectural and from a structural point of view.

27. The foundation of the Lady Havelock Hospital was laid at the beginning of last year, and the buildings are approaching

completion.

COLOMBO WATERWORKS.

28 The rainfall for the year at the Labugama reservoir, from which the town of Colombo is supplied with water, was 162 inches, about double the rainfall at Colombo itself. The drainage area is 2,380 acres. The result of the examination of the town water at the standposts by the city analyst was highly satisfactory, the water being pronounced very pure after a careful miscroscopical and biological examination.

The delivery of the main pipe stood at 2,475,000 gallons daily, equal to 19 gallons per head daily for a population of 130,000. The question of duplicating the main pipe is under consideration in view of the rapidly increasing population of Colombo.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

29. The expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs. 472,403, as compared with Rs. 479,441 in 1894.

30. The total revenue from Land Sales was Rs. 438,870, as

compared with Rs. 358,835 in 1894.

31. The extent of land alienated by the Crown was 17,027 acres, as against 13,084 in 1894. Of this area 4,236 acres were

sold to Europeans at an average rate of Rs. 21.80 per acre, whilst 12,789 acres were sold to natives at an average rate of Rs. 25 per acre. These figures indicate the growing prosperity of the natives of Ceylon. Until last year the rate per acre of land purchased by Europeans was considerably higher than that paid by natives.

CEYLON. 1895.

32. The demand for ferro-gallic prints continued to increase, and the number of title plans prepared was the largest since 1886, owing to the increase in the number of land sales.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

33. The receipts amounted to Rs. 417,375, as against Rs. The expenditure was Rs. 426,799, as compared with 384,536. Rs. 456,568 in 1894.

34. The past year shows a small deficit in the working of the Department, and if the value of free grants of timber is added the figures nearly balance. The Conservator of Forests points out that expenditure on plantations and the like is in the nature of capital expenditure, and that it cannot be expected that the Forest Department, which has only been organised of recent years, should under these circumstances show a profit. Moreover, the work of forest watchers and rangers is mainly preventive, and the result of their labour appears in the value of land which has not been ruined by timber thieves and chena clearers.

RAILWAYS.

35. The receipts in 1895 amounted to Rs 6,222,735, as compared with Rs. 5,572,054 in 1894, an increase of Rs. 650,681, or over 12 per cent.

The expenditure was Rs. 3,095,266, as against Rs. 3,595,690,

The large decrease was due to the smaller expenditure on new works. The working expenses are, therefore, about, 55 per cent. of the receipts.

The profit on the total capital cost of the Railway-about

Rs. 56,000,000—is between 5 and 6 per cent.

36. The total length of the line open for traffic on December 31st, 1895, was 297 miles. This includes the new section from Galle to Mátara, which was only opened in December last.

37. The number of passengers carried was 4,821,867, an increase of more than 600,000 over last year. The goods traffic for 1895 was 411,915 tons, as compared with 314,461 tons in 1894, an increase of 33 per cent.

POST OFFICE.

38. The receipts of the Post Office are calculated at Rs. 720,289. It is not possible to obtain exact figures, on account of the 5-cent stamp, which is used for both revenue and postal purposes.

39. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 818,177, as against

Rs. 690,807, in 1894.

CETLON. 1895. 40. The large increase is due mainly to two items:-

(1.) Rs. 64,702, a payment to the Indian Government for a new cable between Mannar and Paumben.

(2.) Rs. 41,538 increase in the expenditure on sea conveyance of mails.

41. The deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank rose from Rs. 719,352 at the end of 1894 to Rs. 837,228 on December 31, 1895, an increase of Rs. 117,875, the largest in any year since the system was established in 1885. At the end of 1886 the total amount deposited was only Rs. 50,885, another indication of the growing prosperity of the natives of the island.

42. The total number of post, telegraph, and telephone offices

is 364, an increase of 14 over the previous year.

43. The value of money orders issued was Rs. 5,512,002, as

against Rs. 4,733,897 in 1894.

44. The number of paid telegrams was 115,589 in 1895, the largest on record. In 1885 the number was 23,932 only.

LEGISLATION.

45. The most important Bills passed during the year 1895 were Ordinances consolidating the laws relating to the registration of Marriages, and of Births and Deaths (Nos. 1 and 2 of 1895), also Ordinances consolidating the Law relating to Oaths and Affirmations, and consolidating, defining, and amending the Law of Evidence. This last was the most important Bill introduced for some time past. It followed the lines of the Indian Act on the subject.

46. Other Ordinances of interest were those amending the Explosives Ordinance, the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance, and the Penal Code, and an Ordinance providing for the protection of person and property from risks incidental to the use of electricity for lighting and other purposes. This last was consequent on the

extended use of the electric light in Colombo.

VITAL STATISTICS.

47. The subjcined table shows the proportion of births and deaths per thousand of the population for the six years 1890 to 1895:—

			1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Births -		-	31.9	31.8	29.8	30.8	32.5	31.1
Deaths -	-	-	23:0	28.5	27.2	29.1	27.3	27.1

48. The births exceeded the deaths by 13,179, as compared with an excess of 16,517 in 1894,

49. The estimated total population of Ceylon on December 31, 1895, was 3,298,342.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

CEYLON. 1895.

50. The arrivals of immigrant coolies amounted to 123,611, the largest number in any one year since 1877, when the coffee enterprise was at its zenith. The departures were 80,673, showing an excess of arrivals over departures of 42,938.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

51. The general health of the people was fairly satisfactory.

52. There were reported 156 cases of cholera with 99 deaths, of which the majority occurred among the Indian immigrants. Twenty-three cases of small-pox were reported, of which two proved fatal. The figures were, for 1893, 140 cases and 26 deaths; for 1894, 10 cases and 1 death. Malarial fever of a malignant type was prevalent in the south of the island, the cause of which is traced to the disturbance of the soil when cutting the Galle-Mátara Railway. In other parts its prevalence was milder than usual.

53. There were 158,604 persons vaccinated or re-vaccinated, as against 144,309 in 1894.

54. The number of hospitals and dispensaries open in 1894

and 1895 respectively was as follows:—

		1894.	1895.
Civil hospitals -	-	42	44
Medical aid hospitals	-	13	15
Immigrant bospitals	-	6	6
Dispensaries -	-	206	211
Asylums	-	2	2
Lying-in-hospital	-	1	1

55. The death-rate of all sick treated in hospitals fell very materially, being 9.62 in 1895, as against 9.75 in 1894.

56. The expenditure of the Civil Medical Department amounted

to Rs. 1,046,257, as against Rs. 1,022,245 in 1894.

57. One of the main features of the working of the Department has been the extension of the dispensary system. In 1875, when the present head of the department took charge, 6,890 persons in all were treated. In 1895, 744,365 were treated. A system of estate dispensaries has been inaugurated with satisfactory results.

58. The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance was as follows:—

				Rs.	C.
Total cost in 1895	-	•	-	353,555	0
Receipts from esta	tes		-	68,623	0
Export duty	-51		78.45	97,853	0
Deficit -		-	-	187,079	0

CEYLON. 1895. The deficit shows an increase of some Rs. 20,000 paid by Government in excess of 1894. The deficit in 1893 was only 150,000.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

59. The following table shows the number of cases instituted and of persons convicted before police magistrates during 1894 and 1895:—

				Cases instituted.	Persons charged.	Persons convicted.
1894	•	-		56,097	99,036	18,539
1895	. (54,136	96,341	20,010

60. In the District and Supreme Courts the figures are as follows:—

		District	Courts.	Supreme	e Court.
		Convictions.	Acquittals.	Convictions.	Acquittals.
1894	-	536	493	420	307
1895		445	411	255	128

61. The results of trials for murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder were as follows:—

		Number of Persons tried.	Number convicted of Murder.	Number convicted of culpable Homicide.	Number acquitted.	Number executed.
1894		136	40	44	52	27
1895	-	129	24	52	53	24

- 62. These figures do not point to any general increase in crime, but rather the reverse.
- 63. The number of murders and culpable homicides is, however, on the increase, and the inquest returns for 1895 give the extraordinarily large number of 196 homicides, much the largest on record, the previous highest being 160 in 1894.
- 64. The average for the last five years is 142, as against 132 in the previous five years.

PRISONS.

CEYLON.

- 65. The main alteration effected in 1895 was the introduction of a system of labour (pingo-carrying), which almost abolished dietary punishment.
- 66. It has been found that this latter form of punishment has little, if any, deterrent force. The weight of the pingo to be carried can be accurately adjusted to the strength of the prisoner, and this form of penal labour has been found to be exceedingly distasteful.
- 67. The total number of admissions for 1895 was 6,242, as compared with 6,967 in 1894. Deducting road defaulters (744) the number of admissions and the daily average (2,192) were the lowest since 1880.
- 68. For the fifth year in succession, the daily average of men imprisoned on conviction for offences shows a steady decline. The figures are:—

1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
3,509	3,353	2,684	2,495	2,381	2,192

so that the prison population has been reduced by about a third in that period.

69. The First Offenders Ordinance, under which persons convicted by magistrates of a first offence may be discharged on giving security for good behaviour, and the Youthful Offenders Ordinance, under which juvenile offenders are sent to certified industrial schools, are no doubt responsible in a measure for this great decrease in the prison population.

70. The number of admissions on committals from higher courts is 614, the lowest on record except that of 1891; this is an indication of decrease of serious crime.

- 71. The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 441,610, as against Rs. 473,060 in 1894. The last three years have been the lowest since 1884. The actual cost of dieting was less than in any previous year in the decade from 1884 to 1895. Hospital charges were unfortunately much the highest in the same period, being no less than Rs. 26,397. The next highest figure was Rs. 21,947.
- 72. The health of the prisoners showed no improvement, the death-rate being 65 in 1895 as against 61 in 1894.
- 73. The health of the prisoners in the Convict Establishment remained unsatisfactory, though the death-rate fell a little from 74 to 72.
- 74. The daily sick per thousand of the total daily average strength in the island was 91.51 in 1894 and 100.19 in 1895.

CEYLON. 1895. 75. There was a decrease in the number of punishments inflicted on prisoners. A large number of prisoners are now employed in Mutwal and Mahara jails in connexion with the new North-east Breakwater.

EDUCATION.

- 76. During 1895 there was an increase of nearly 3,147 in the number of scholars in schools presented for examination.
- 77. In 1894 the number was 131,334, as against 134,481 in 1895. In 1886 the number was 87,608 only, showing an increase in the decade of over 60 per cent.

In 1870, the first year in which figures are available, the total was 16,927 only.

- 78. In point of attendance there was also improvement, the number of scholars in schools reporting to the Department being 169,834 in 1895, as compared with 163,910 in 1894.
- 79. The proportion which the number of children attending school bears to the population for 1894 and 1895 is as follows:—

Province.			1894.	1895.
Western -		-1	1 in 12	1 in 11
Central -			1 in 28	1 in 25
Northern		-	1 in 13	1 in 11
Southern		- 1	1 in 20	1 in 17
Eastern -	-00	-	1 in 19	1 in 18
North-Wester	rn -	-	1 in 36	1 in 31
North-Centra		-	1 in 37	1 in 38
Uva -			1 in 47	1 in 45
Sabaragamuv	va -	-	1 in 38	1 in 35

80. The annexed tables give the comparative returns of attendance in Government, grant-in-aid, unaided, and pansala schools for 1894 and 1895, together with the average attendance and average cost to Government of the scholars in Government and aided schools:—

	No. of Schools in		Attended by					
	1894.	1895.	Boys in 1894.	Boys in 1895.	Girls in 1894.	Girls in 1895.	Total in 1894.	Total in 1895.
Government schools -	468	477	37,666	37,552	6,700	6,700	44,366	44,252
Grant-in-aid schools	1,042	1,096	59,976	61,843	26,992	28,386	86,968	90,229
Unaided private schools -	730	700	19,929	22,031	6,054	6,658	25,983	28,689
Pansala schools	1,678	1,542	6,593	6,664		-	6,593	6,664
Total	3,918	3,815	124,164	128,090	39,746	41,744	163,910	169,834

('EYLON. 1895.

<u></u>	Average Number of Scholars per School		Average Cos ment p	t to Govern- er Boy	Average Cost to Government per Girl			
	In 1894.	In 1895.	In 1894.	In 1895.	In 1894.	In 1895.		
Government schools.	94	93	Rs. c. 4 89	Rs. c. 4 91	Rs. c. 3 69	Rs. c. 3 65		
Grant-in-aid schools.	83	82	2 97 per scholar.	3 10 per scholar.	Boys and girls no	t distinguished		
Unaided private schs.	35	40	-	-	-	-		
Pansala schools.	3	4	-		-	-		

81. The Department of Public Instruction has under its control the Technical College and the School of Agriculture, to which it is proposed to add a School of Forestry. At present the Conservator of Forests delivers a course of lectures on both theoretical and practical forestry.

82. A dairy farm is attached to the School of Agriculture, and last year's working proved satisfactory, showing a profit of over

Rs. 2,000 on a capital expenditure of Rs. 31,000.

W. T. TAYLOR, Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Colombo, October 30, 1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 195. G A M B I A.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 165.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

July 1897.



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1897.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Col	ony.				Year.
166	Bermuda					1895
167	Leeward Islands -			-		1894
168	British New Guinea				-	1894-5
169	Zululand -	-	-	-	-	1895
170	Sierra Leone -	-		-	-	99
171	Gibraltar	4	-	-	-	99
172	Malta		- 1		-	"
173	Barbados	- 34				29
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	-	-		-	"
175	Falkland Islands -	-			-	"
176	St. Helena -	-	-		-	"
177	Bahamas	-				"
178	Hong Kong -	-		-		"
179	Windward Islands -	-			-	22
180	Labuan	-			-	,,,
181	Trinidad and Tobago	- 4			-	"
182	Seychelles	-	-	-	-	,,
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	•	-			1894 and 1895
184	British Honduras -	-			-	1895
185	Lagos	- 19		C - 51	S	,,,
186	Basutoland -			•	-	1895-6
187	Ceylon		•		-	1895
188	British Guiana -	-	-		-	1895-6
189	Gold Coast -	-	-		- 4-	1895
190	Jamaica	-			-	1895-6
191	Canada	-		-	-	1895
192	Bermuda	-	-	/-	-	1896
193	Bahamas	-		-	C	"
194	Zululand	-		-	-	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.			Subject.			
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.			
2	Zululand	. 17		Forests.			
2 3	Sierra Leone			Geology and Botany.			
4	Canada -		N. C.	Emigration.			
4 5 6 7	Bahamas -		T. (14)	Sisal Industry.			
6	Hong Kong			Bubonic Plague.			
7	Newfoundland			Mineral Resources.			
8	Western Pacific	-		Solomon Islands.			

No. 195.

GAMBIA. 1896.

GAMBIA.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 165 of this Series.)

Administrator LLEWELYN to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Bathurst, Gambia, May 14, 1897.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1896, together with my Report on the same.

I have, &c.

R. B. LLEWELYN,
Administrator.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1896

There was a slight improvement in the trade of the Colony during the year owing to a considerable business being done in the export of rubber, but, on the other hand, the crop of ground nuts did not come up to the expectation of the merchants, and it was consequently found necessary in May to increase some of the import duties so as to raise sufficient revenue to carry on the ordinary working expenses of the public service.

2. Fortunately there was a revival of trade after the rainy season had passed, and this caused the receipts to increase so that at the end of the year the deficit of 1,600l. which existed on the 1st of January was reduced to about 700l.

3. I believe that although the total export of ground nuts was only 12,000 tons, yet the price obtained was rather better than it had been for some time, and the year for the commercial houses was not without some profit.

4. The most gratifying item of revenue was that collected in the Protectorate from the hut tax. Without any penal clause in the Ordinance, and without the presence of even a constable in the territory, the Commissioners were paid in cash voluntarily by the people their tax of 1s. per hut. This amounted to 970l., and with traders licenses 432l, and miscellaneous receipts 264l.,

O 98009. Wt. 20408.

SIR.

GAMBIA. 1896.

brought the total receipts in the Protectorate up to 1,666l.; which for a first attempt must be considered as very satisfactory. Writing this report in May, 1897, I am glad to be able to state that up to date this year 1,800l. has been collected from the same sources without the slightest difficulty.

5. The total revenue of the Colony amounted to 26,171l. and the expenditure, which was kept as low as possible, to 25,300l. This included extraordinary expenditure of 518l. for repairs to Oyster Creek Bridge, 490l. for an iron residence for the curator at the Botanical Station, and 414l. for the expenses of the Anglo-French Boundary Survey.

6. By legislation those parts of the old Colony known as the "Ceded Mile" and McCarthy Island, were, for administrative purposes, included within the Protectorate. This has been done with the object of putting these outlying places under the Travelling Commissioner and on the same footing as the adjoining Protectorate.

An important measure was passed placing the management of the public lands in the Colony and Protectorate in the hand of the Government in cases where no legitimate owners could be This measure, it is hoped, will encourage capitalists to take up tracts of land for agricultural purposes, as the Government is now able to issue "land certificates" to persons who bond fide There are large tracts of land on intend to cultivate the land. the banks of this river suitable for the growing of rice, and that and the cultivation of indigo and cotton have long been carried on by the natives according to their primitive fashion. With the peace and order now existing in the Protectorate there should be a good field here for the safe investment of capital, which is much to be desired, as up to the present time the only capital in th country has been in trade and the people themselves have managed to scrape out of the ground an article of export worth 120,000l. a Surely with capital and intelligence this might be largely year.

7. The criminal statistics for the year show a most appreciable diminution in crime, the offences being 44 less than in the previous year and the smallest number reported in any one year during the last decade, and, in fact, I think I may add that at present there is a perfect calm here. In further proof of this, I am happy to report that the daily average number of prisoners in the jail here during 1896 was only 17, just half the number, 34, that it was for the previous 10 years; and it must be borne in mind that offenders in the Protectorate are now sent to Bathurst to undergo

imprisonment in the jail there.

8. The vital statistics are not so encouraging to study as those relating to the diminution in crime. The returns are not to be implicitly relied upon, as it is difficult for the registrar to get perfect information relating to births and deaths. Apparently the birth-rate is 25 per thousand, and the death-rate 26 per thousand. Out of 381 children born 174 died during babyhood, which is a lamentable fact, but I cannot see what steps can be taken to

enforce mothers to take more care of their infants. There were four deaths amongst the Europeans, including that of Mr. Bascom, the Collector of Customs.

GAМВІА. 1896.

9. The unhealthiness of Bathurst, owing to its low-lying position, during the rainy season, July to October, is well known. During those four months the climate is, perhaps, the most trying on the west coast of Africa, and in the dry season the great diurnal variations in temperature are equally trying to some constitutions. In the first months of the year the thermometer not unfrequently stands at 68° at sunrise and over 100° at 3 in the afternoon. This, with a strong breeze, is very apt to produce a chill and bring out the latent malarial fever. I am afraid that there is no chance of entirely stamping out malarial fever in a town built on a mud bank with the mangroves right up to its outskirts.

I append a comparative table of the meteorological statistics. The rainfall—51 inches—was below the average, but it is about the quantity that is required to ensure a good harvest, if it falls

at the right periods.

10. The education of the children of Bathurst does not progress as satisfactorily as could be desired. The bulk of the parents are quite indifferent to it; and the number of children on the rolls is under 900, when it ought to be 1,500. Many of the children have parents who only speak Jolloff or Mandingo, and it is very difficult for these to be instructed in English a few hours every day, as when with their family at home they never hear it spoken. There are also many Mahomedans in Bathurst, and they are most reluctant to send their children to school at all. In the Protectorate, up to the present, all efforts have failed to induce the people to let their children attend an English school. Time alone can bring this about, and it will only be done by perseverance and great patience. The managers of the schools do their best, but when it is remembered the extent to which Mahomedanism prevails, and the openly expressed views of the people that they do not wish to be improved, the difficulties of advancing the education of the masses, except by compulsion, are apparent, and at present I do not think this step could be taken.

Protectorate.

11. Great strides have been made in the management of the Protectorate, and it is hardly possible to realise the change that has occurred within the last three or four years in the territories adjacent to Bathurst.

12. The tyrannical rule of the native chiefs is now supplanted by the establishment of native courts, which during the year heard and settled 38 cases. As far as it is possible to judge at present, these courts will be of great service hereafter in maintaining peace and order. No regular police force is stationed anywhere in the Protectorate, but in each town there are a certain number of

GAMBIA. 1896. "messengers," selected from the inhabitants, who, when the headman issues to them a badge (an enamelled Union Jack) worn by a cord round the neck, have all the power, authority, and protection of a regular police officer.

They are remunerated at a fixed rate per day for their services when so employed, and the system seems to be working very

satisfactorily.

13. Domestic slavery—the only form that now exists—is moribund, as the slaves all know their position, and without any violent measures being resorted to by the Government, the whole fabric of slavery is gradually and rapidly crumbling to pieces. In considering this, it is remarkable that the crop of ground nuts has not largely decreased. But the establishment of peace within the Protectorate has induced settlers to come within it, and many of the free-born who formerly would not work are now compelled to.

14. Another change, too, has arisen out of the establishment of the Protectorate, and that is the end of the old system of trading by barter. Formerly it was not safe for the merchants in Bathurst to send traders with cash up the river, but now this can

be done, and has been carried out this year.

15. This will lead to the establishment of stores or factories up the river, where the natives will in a few years' time be able to purchase their supplies with their cash at prices very little in

advance of those charged in Bathurst.

16. The system of only allowing persons with licences to trade in the Protectorate has had the effect of securing a much more reliable body of men engaged in this pursuit, and the natives are not now subjected to the troubles that formerly frequently arose between them and the traders. The establishment of confidence and friendship between the trader and the native planter is a great advantage to all classes.

17. By the aid of the Government steamer "Mansah Kilah"—Queen's Messenger—I have been able to induce many chiefs and others to visit Bathurst, and had a general meeting there of all the head chiefs in April. This little steamer has now been running for over two years, and is indispensable in carrying out

the administration of the Protectorate.

18. Many improvements have been made in the laying out of the towns with wide streets in blocks and squares instead of the old style of circular village with narrow paths going round and round within the stockade, like the maze at Hampton Court.

19. Roads, bamboo bridges, and embankments of mud across swamps have all received attention, but it is needless to add that much remains to be done for many years in a Protectorate of 3,600 square miles, which was practically unknown until within

the last three or four years.

20. With the knowledge that has been gained and the interest which the people see is now being taken to protect and assist them, I have no doubt that the Mandingo man spoke truly when he said "that the English Government had nothing more to fear

"from native chiefs and their warboys, as they had felt the benefits of the white man's government and would themselves put down any would-be chief," and I think I may conclude by adding that the year 1896 was one of unparalleled peace and quiet at the Gambia.

GAМВІА. 1896.

R. B. LLEWELYN.

14th May 1897.

Comparative Rainfall, Colony of the Gambia.

N	Month			1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
January -		•	-	-	•02			
February -			-	-	_	_	-	_
March -				_	-			
April -	-			•01	•40	.07	_	
May -	- ^			1.38	2.16	_	_	0.24
June -	-			3.02	3.29	5.33	0.86	3.69
July -	*-	3	-	14.89	20.57	16.54	12.00	12.97
August -				22.65	30.57	18.64	36.63	17.30
September			-	4.76	13.00	13.35	19.34	11.96
October -	•		-	4.39	7.33	1.29	2.95	4.96
November				-	•15	•64	2.08	
December		-	-	_	•40	-	_	0.06
			1	51.13	77.89	55.86	66.86	51.18

Average 60.58.

R. M. FORDE, Colonial Surgeon. GAМВІА. 1896.

Meteorological Observations, 1896.

	Mon	Average for Month at 7 a.m.			Maximum in Shade at 3 p.m.				t 7 a.m. Rainfall in Inche			Inches.
Months.	Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Dew- point.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.	Total.	Maximum.	Date.
January	68.5	62.2	57.2	89.5	77.	83.7	69.	60.5	66.3	_	-	-
February	67.8	60.4	54.5	94.5	73.	83*6	69.5	61.2	65*5	-	_	
March	69.	61.9	56.3	97.	74.	84.4	71.	61.	66.4	_	_	_
April	72.1	65.9	61.2	102	77.5	87.7	74.	64.5	68.4	_	-	_
May	76.3	70.7	66.7	96.	76.	86.	77.5	67.	73.5	0.24	0.18	25-5-96
June	80.08	75:06	71.6	92.5	84.5	87.7	80.5	72.	76.	3.69	0.92	29-6-96
July	79.	75.4	72.9	90.5	81.	86.2	80.	67.5	74.6	12.97	4.78	9-7-96
August	78.4	75.5	73.5	89.5	78.5	85.3	78.5	70.5	74.3	17.30	5.05	17-8-96
September -	79.1	75.9	74.1	90.	81.2	86.2	78.	70.5	74.5	11.96	4.39	23-9-96
October	78.8	75.9	74.01	91.5	83*	87.5	80.	69.5	74.8	4.96	1.14	8-10-96
November -	76.4	70.6	66.4	93.	84*	88.8	78*	64.	73.06	_	_	_
December .	66.4	59.2	53.3	90.	73.	77.5	73.	60.5	66.2	0.06	0.08	31-12-96

Total rainfall for 1896 = 51.18 inches.

R. M. FORDE, Colonial Surgeon.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 189.

GOLD COAST.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 158 of this Series.)

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February 1897.



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1897.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Cole	ony.				Year.
154	St. Helena -					1894
155	Ceylon	-		-	-	"
156	Mauritius	-		•	-	"
157	Labuan	-	•		-	, "
158	Gold Coast -	-		-	-	"
159	British Guiana -	-	•	-1-	-	1894-5
160	Sierra Leone -	-	3	- 11	-	1894
161	Jamaica	-	•	-	-	1894–5
162	British Honduras -	-		•	-\	1894
263	British Bechuanaland	•				1894-5
164	Newfoundland -	-	-		-	1894
165	Gambia	•	- \	-	-	99
166	Bermuda	•	-	-		,,
167	Leeward Islands -	•	/ -	-	-	"
168	British New Guinea	-	- X	-		1894-5
169	Zululand		•	-	-	1895
170	Sierra Leone -			-		"
171	Gibraltar	• 0	•	-	-	,,,
172	Malta	-	-	-	-	"
173	Barbados	•			•	99
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	•			-	22
175	Falkland Islands -			•	•	22
176	St. Helena -	-	•	-	-	29
177	Bahamas	-		-		"
178	Hong Kong -	-	•		-	>>
179	Windward Islands -	-	15.0		•	99
180	Labuan	-	•	-	-	99
181	Trinidad and Tobago	-	14 · 3	-	-	"
182	Seychelles			7	-	"
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	•				1894 and 1895
184	British Honduras -	-		- 7	-	1895
185	Lagos -	-			-	"
186	Basutoland -	-	-		-	1895-6
187	Ceylon - '-	-				1895
188	British Guiana -	41			-	1895-6

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.			Subject.				
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.				
2	Zululand -	-	17 13 11	Forests.				
2 3	Sierra Leone			Geology and Botany.				
	Canada -			Emigration.				
4 5	Bahamas -	-		Sisal Industry.				
6	Hong Kong	-	-	Bubonic Plague,				
7	Newfoundland	-	-	Mineral Resources.				

No. 189.

GOLD COAST. 1895.

GOLD COAST.

[For Report for 1894, see No. 158.]

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Accra, September 30, 1896.

SIR, I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a report on the Blue Book for 1895. I regret that it has not been in my power to forward the report at an earlier date, but since my arrival in the Colony on the 17th April, I have had so much to do that I have only been able to write it at odd moments.

I have, &c.

F. M. Hodgson, Acting Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE GOLD COAST COLONY FOR 1895.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

There was no change in the general fiscal arrangements of the Colony during the year, and the increased amount of revenue collected shows that trade was not only satisfactory but flourishing. The revenue amounted to 230,075l. 12s. 10d., being an increase of 11,814l. 7s. 3d. over that of 1894, which amounted to 218,261l. 5s. 7d.

2. The following table gives a comparison of the revenue of the two years classified under the principal heads: -

Items of Revenue.	1894.	1895.	Increase.		
Wines, spirits, tobacco, guns, &c. (specific duties).	£ s. d. 154,155 14 3	£ s. d. 157,163 0 11	£ s. d 3,007 6 8		
General merchandise (ad valorem duty).	36,993 1 9	40,579 17 4	3,586 15 7		
Liquor licences	5,800 0 0	6,347 10 0	547 10. 0		
Stamps (postal, telegraph an revenue).	9,744 15 6	9,952 14 3	267, 18. 9		
Other items	*11,567 14 1	†16,032 10 4	4,464 16 3		
Total revenue -	218,261 5 7	230,075 12 10	11,814 7 3		

[•] Includes 5.1811. 16s. 7d. interest on investments. † Includes 5,2921. 10s. 10d. interest on investments.

o 94530. Wt. 20348.

GOLD COAST. 1895. 3. Taking the population of the Gold Coast at 1,500,000 as estimated from the census returns of 1891, the taxation per head amounted in 1895 to the small sum of 3s. $0\frac{3}{4}d$. The annual increase of taxation per head is roughly at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}d$., as shown by the following figures:—

		0				5.	d.
1892				-	-		5
1893			-	-		2	8
1894	-	-	- 3	-	-	2	$10\frac{1}{2}$
1895					-	3	03

- 4. In no other Colony of the Empire is the general population so lightly taxed, and the imposition of additional taxes should neither be difficult nor harassing when the time comes, as it will come in the near future, for raising additional revenue to defray the cost of opening up the country by means of roads and railways, of the provision of water supplies at the more important of the trade ports, of the erection of important and long required public buildings, and of such extension of the administrative machinery as the opening up of the country will render necessary.
- 5. The actual revenue derived from imported alcoholic liquors was 135,220l. 3s. 9d., being considerably more than half of the total revenue of the Colony. The revenue from the same source in 1894 was 132,261l. 17s. 2d. The revenue from merchandise other than alcoholic liquors was 56,618l. 19s. 10d., as against 51,922l. 9s. 6d. in 1894. Whereas, therefore, by the import of alcoholic liquors the revenue was increased by 2,958l. 6s. 7d., it is satisfactory to note that the increase from merchandise other than alcoholic liquors was 4,696l. 10s. 4d. The comparison is better shown by the following figures:—

			HCLEase.			
Alcoholic liquors	-	•			2.24	
Merchandise other	r than	alcoholic	liquors	-	9.03	

Expenditure.

- 6. The expenditure amounted to 265,289l. 5s. 11d., being in excess of the revenue by no less a sum than 35,213l. 13s. 1d., and more by 38,357l. 5s. 7d. than the expenditure in 1894.
- 7. Upon public works of all kinds the expenditure, irrespective of salaries of the fixed establishment of the Public Works Department (10,687l. 19s. 7d.), amounted to 39,306l. 7s. 2d., and upon roads it amounted to 8,343l. 13s. 9d. A sum of 5,699l. 2 4d. was spent in the work of education, 8,462l. 4s. 5d. upon telegraphic communication, and 15,618l. 1s. 6d. in connexion with the hospitals, dispensaries, and medical arrangements generally. The armed Hausa constabulary cost the Colony 32,657l. 3s. 8d., and

the police force 12,845*l.* 5s. 5d., while a small part of the expenses Gold Coast. of the Ashanti expedition—namely, a sum of 16,279*l.* 11s.—was included in the years expenditure.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

8. The Gold Coast Colony has no public debt, and on the 31st December 1895 the net assets amounted to 143,087l. 17s. 11d., including the following investments:—

		Value Dece	on 31 mber	
		£	s.	d.
General Account (surplus fund)		61,574	8	5
Savings Bank Account -	-	2,625	17	7
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund		627	11	2

LOCAL REVENUE.

9. The Ordinance passed on the 14th November 1894, to provide for the establishment of town councils, has not as yet been brought into operation. It is proposed to try the Ordinance tentatively at Accra, where its operation can be watched by the Government, and then to extend the municipal system of administration to other towns, as soon as its success at Accra has been assured and the natives see the advantages which will accrue to them from it.

MILITARY AND POLICE FORCE.

10. The small detachments of Hausas which had been left at Bompata and Agogo, when the Ashantis had withdrawn their army from Nkovanza in 1894, were still at those places at the commencement of the year.

11. In November, the mission of the messengers sent to England by Prempeh, King of Kumasi, having failed, and no notice having been taken by the King of a second message sent to him in September, which he was requested to attend to by the 31st October, a military expedition to Kumasi was decided upon to compel compliance with the demands of Her Majesty's Government. The preparations for the campaign were made with the utmost expedition. Instructions were given for the immediate formation and despatch of a special service corps, and arrangements were made for the West Yorkshire Regiment, then on its way to England, being sent to Cape Coast as well as the West India Regiment from Sierra Leone, and 160 men of the Lagos Hausa Constabulary to reinforce the Hausa Constabulary of the Gold Coast. Orders were also issued by the Admiralty for the assembly of as large a naval force on the Gold Coast as was

GOLD COAST. possible. Preliminary preparations for the expedition were made in the Coloy. Sheter huts and field hospitals were erected at Prahsu, as well as at four places along the road between Cape Coast and that station; a temporary bridge was thrown across the Prah at Prahsu; surf boats for landing the troops were engaged; food supplies ordered, and arrangements matured for the provision of some 8,000 natives as carriers. Steps were also taken to arm the Nkoranzas, who were to accompany the Hausa force destined to march on Kumasi from the north-east.

12. The command of the expedition was entrusted to Scott, the Inspector-General of the Gold Colonel Sir Francis Coast Hausa Constabulary, who, accompanied by the Head Quarter Staff, left England on the 23rd November. The whole of the troops engaged in the expedition had disembarked at Cape Coast by the 28th December, and before the end of the year were

on the march to Kumasi.*

13. The civil police force was separated from the Hausa Constabulary by an Ordinance passed on the 30th June 1894. In December the constables stationed at several of the small towns were withdrawn and concentrated in the larger towns. The force suffers from the want of proper police stations, but it is hoped that it will be possible to remedy this want in the near The improvement which has been effected in the pay and prospects of the men has had the result of attracting a better and more educated class of men to apply for appointment.

PUBLIC WORKS

14. A large number of public works were either completed or commenced during the year. Among the former may be mentioned a bridge over the Sweet River on the road between Cape Coast and Elmina, the clearing away of the houses in Accra burnt down by the fire in April 1894 and the marking out of new streets, the church of Accra, and the erection at Accra of a Queen's warehouse and a hospital for the Hausa Constabulary. Among the latter were the erection of an additional building to the Colonial Hospital at Accra, additional bungalows for Government officers, a court-house at Axim, Government officers' quarters at Saltpond, drainage work at Cape Coast, and the improvement and getting into order of the streets of the coast town of Winneba.

LEGISLATION.

15. Nine Ordinances were added to the statute book, and included :-

No. 1. An Ordinance to make better provision for the Registration of Instruments affecting Land in the Colony;

^{*} The result of the expedition is now a matter of history. The force met with no opposition and entered Kumasi on the 17th January, and King Prempeh and his adherents were brought down to the coast, and lodged in Elmina gaol.

No. 2. An Ordinance to amend the Statute Law of the Colony; Gold Coast.

No. 3. An Ordinance to make temporary provision as to compulsory Labour for Public purposes.

Ordinance No. 3 was passed for the purpose of ensuring to the Government a sufficient number of porters for service with the Ashanti Expedition. By native custom it is obligatory on persons of the labouring class to give labour for public purposes on being called upon to do so by their Chiefs or headmen, and the Ordinance followed the lines of native custom, and strengthened the hands of the Chiefs and headmen upon being summoned to

POPULATION.

provide their quota of porters.

- 16. During the year the countries of Nkoranza and Adansi, the former situated to the north and the latter to the south of Ashanti, were included within the protectorate by treaty. The Nkoranza tribe had revolted from the Ashanti confederation in 1892, and had been overcome by the Ashanti army and many of its towns and villages destroyed, including the well-known Mohammedan trading centre of Kintempo. A gradual revival of trade at Kintempo, which is being rebuilt, is now taking place, and it is hoped that with the protection now afforded to the Nkoranzas the trade from the interior, which was diverted by the destruction of the town, will once more flow towards it.
- 17. The question of forming on the Gold Coast permanent settlements of Kroomen, who are the coolies of West Africa, has been under the consideration of the Government, and steps have been taken to acquire the necessary amount of land for a village site at Accra. An Ordinance dealing with the allotment and regulation of village sites is also in course of preparation, and it is hoped that a start will be made in 1896 towards carrying out this important scheme.

18. The number of Christian marriages celebrated during the year was 124, being a decrease of 35 in the number celebrated in 1894. The numbers during the last six years have been as follows:—

1890	34 300			aloughan.	-	93
1891						94
1892		No. 18		Well- en		110
1893	of Digital of	4 - 14	L L POR	Sartan	-	135
1894	100°	No and a second		-	-	159
1895	-	101	112 - 111	Ho-	-	124

Total Christian marriages in six years - 715

GOLD COAST. 1895.

- 19. It is satisfactory to note that the action taken by the Government in 1891, in requiring the establishment of cemeteries in the principal towns and villages, is being appreciated by the natives. Formerly it was the practice of the native to bury his relations within his dwelling house, but this practice is fast becoming a thing of the past, and the cemeteries established by the orders of the Government are now being freely used, many of the graves being marked with rude memorials to distinguish them. Cemeteries are kept up at the expense of the Government in Accra, Christiansborg, Cape Coast, Elmina, and Adda.
- 20. During the year steps were taken by the Government for the complete suppression of the worship of the Fetish Katawere. This Fetish, which was located in Akim Swaidru, was accredited with powers of life and death, and many a wealthy native fell a victim to its supposed powers, it being a rule that the property of persons stated by the priests to have died by order of the Fetish should be divided between the Fetish priests and the Head Chief of the country. The shrines of the Fetish were broken down, the sacred groves destroyed, and the people delivered from the tyranny of the rapacious priesthood.

EDUCATION.

- 21. Education in the Gold Coast Colony has made rapid and substantial progress during the past three years, in spite of the many difficulties to be overcome in such a country as West Africa.
- 22. The lack of properly trained teachers is in itself a great bar to the development of a thoroughly intelligent and useful scheme of instruction, and the various missionary agencies at work in the Colony are under the circumstances to be congratulated upon the results of their labours.
- 23. Three years ago there were but 72 certified inspected schools in the Colony giving instructions to some 7,350 scholars. There are now 100 such schools, containing 9,954 children in attendance, -- an increase of nearly 40 per cent. in the number of schools, and 21 per cent, in the number of children in attendance. The average attendance of the scholars has risen in the same proportion, and the grant awarded by the Government for the past year has reached the sum of 3,179l. 6s., a grant equal to a sum of 8s. 6d. per head for each child examined. The sum awarded by the Government is exclusive of grants for new buildings, repairs to old ones, grants to teachers, and grants towards the purchase of school books, furniture, and general apparatus, and, in addition, the Government entirely supports two of the largest and most efficient schools in the Colony, with 1,328 children in attendance, in addition to schools for the Hausa force and the civil police.

24. The following tabulated statement will show more plainly Gold Coast. than words can describe the present position of the various educational agencies now at work in the Colony:—

Denomination.	No. of Schools.	On Rolls.	Average Attendance.	Examined.	Grant Earned.	Per Head.
Basel Mission	33	2,705	2,082	2,472	£ s. d. 1,012 19 0	s. d. 8 2½
Wesleyan Mission -	44	4,044	3,086	3,654	1,396 2 0	7 8
Roman Catholic Mission	16	2,014	1,599	1,571	770 5 0	9 91
Government Mission -	7	1,191	803	910		-
Totals	100	9,954	7,570	8,607	3,179 6 0	8 55

25. The subjects of instruction include reading, writing, and arithmetic, geography, history, and grammar, whilst in a few of the larger town schools, shorthand, book-keeping, and music are

taught.

26. A purely literary education for Gold Coast children would be of little value, and the Government is, therefore, encouraging the missionary agencies to include in the training of the children some one or more of many branches of useful industrial work that will enable the boy when he leaves school to turn his education to some account and to help to develop the resources of his own country.

27. Plantation work in connexion with the schools is extending and flourishing, and already profitable crops of coffee are grown by the scholars at Aburi, Akropong, Begoro, and many other schools in the Akim and Kwahu districts, under the direction of

the Basel Mission.

28. At Begoro, too, successful attempts have been made with cacao and the kola nut, and machines have been introduced for

the subsequent treatment of the coffee when picked.

29. At Akropong a commencement has been made with carpentry and bookbinding, also under the Basel Mission management, and a most excellent workshop has existed at Christiansborg for many years, where youths who have passed through the Basel Mission schools may receive practical instruc-

tion in carpentry and smith's work.

30. Annual examinations of teachers for certificates are held at five centres in the Colony, and during the past two years have been numerously attended. During 1894-95 no less than 93 candidates attended the examinations of whom 26 were successful. and during 1895-96 some 79 candidates were examined, of whom 30 gained certificates. Prizes are also awarded to the successful teachers at the examinations. Thus the Colony has gained during the past two years 56 teachers, who have passed an examination and are now certified as fit to give instruction to others.

31. No scheme for secondary education yet exists, nor in fact is the country yet in want of such a measure. A scheme of Gold GOLD COAST. 1895.

Coast Government scholarships, tenable at the home universities for four years, was, however, drafted by the late Governor, Sir Brandford Griffith, the pass being the Senior Cambridge Local Examination; but it will, I think, be some time before a Gold Coast native reaches to this required standard and earns a scholarship.

32. An exhibition of school industries is held annually at Accra for two days. This exhibition increases in popularity every year, and the exhibits increase also in number and variety, on account of the valuable money prizes awarded by the Government.

TRADE.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

33. Trade, excepting during the latter part of the year, when the general unrest due to the Ashanti expedition caused it to diminish, was satisfactory. The total value of the imports (invoice value, including freight and other expenses) was 931,537l. 1s. 7d., and the value of the exports 877,803l. 12s. 1d. The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year amounted, therefore, to 1,809,340l. 13s. 10d., being an increase of 146,166l. 14s. 1d. over the value for the year 1894, which amounted to 1,663,173l. 19s. 9d., or roughly at the rate of 9 per cent.

34. The trade of the Colony during the last six years—that is to say, since the present ad valorem duty of 10 per cent. has been in force, is shown as follows:—

	N.			Imp	oorts.	Tonanta	Totals.		
	Year.			Paying Duty.	Admitted Free.	Exports.	Totals.		
1890				£ s. d. 347,480 17 10	£ s. d. 214,621 18 6	£ s. d. 661,348 9 6	£ s. d. 1,163,451 3 10		
1891			ali:	464,188 1 7	201,593 1 5	684,304 19 8	1,350,086 2 8		
1892		1		422,026 8 1	175,068 4 4	665,064 3 3	1,262,064 3 3		
1893			-	475,346 15 8	243,006 8 7	722,106 19 1	1,440,460 3 4		
1894				607,109 7 2	205,721 1 8	850,343 10 11	1,663,173 19 9		
1895				653,357 19 8	278,179 1 11	877,803 12 1	1,809,340 13 10		

It will be seen from these figures that trade has increased in six years by nearly 650,000l., or upwards of 55 per cent.

35. The principal articles of trade are:-

Imports.—Cotton, woollen, and silk goods, spirits, hardware, cooper's stores, rice, flour, provisions, tobacco, building materials, and wearing apparel.

Exports.—Palm oil, palm kernels, rubber, gold dust, timber, kola nuts, and monkey skins.

COLONIAL REPORTS .- ANNUAL.

36. The bulk of the trade is with the United Kingdom as GOLD COASE. shown by the following comparative tables:-

Imports.

	Year.	FAL	From the King	_		From Color			From I Coun			Tota	ls.	
1890	- /		£ 422,739			£ 5,861		d.	£ 133,502		d. 6	£ 562,102		d.
1891		-	483,392	18	3	5,085	6	10	177,302	17	11	665,781	3	0
1892	•		407,037	16	10	9,924	13	11	180,132	1	8	597,094	2	5
1893	• ,	-	524,036	16	1	8,719	5	10	185,597	2	4	718,353	4	3
1894		-	582,273	14	8	13,168	14	1	217,388	0	1	812,830	8	10
1895		-	630,000	7	6	91,164	18	7	210,371	15	6	931,537	1	

Exports.

Year.		To the United Kingdom.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Totals.
1890 -	184	£ s. d. 494,237 1 11	£ s. d. 643 19 2	£ s. d. 106,467 8 5	£ s. d. 601,348 9 6
1891 -	-	545,492 16 6	2,035 5 0	136,776 18 2	684,304 19 8
1892 -	-	471,218 19 10	2,053 13 9	191,791 9 8	665,064 3 3
1893 -		530,300 1 5	27,016 16 7	164,790 1 1	722,106 19 1
1894 -	-	608,258 6 7	29,765 3 1	212,320 1 3	850,343 10 11
1895 -		586,415 1 5	38,211 6 2	253,177 4 8	877,803 12 3

37. The Customs receipts during the year at the principal ports of the Colony are shown as follows:-

Port		Impose exclusion of Spi Gunposend G	irits, wder,	Spir	its.	Gunp	owo	ler.	Gı	uns.		Tota	al.	
Axim -		£ 3,259	s. d. 7 0	£ 6,119	s. d. 12 6	£ 412	s. 10	<i>d</i> . 0	£ 57	s. 16	$_{0}^{d}$.	£ 9,849		d. 6
Cape Coast	-	10,010	10 6	20,597	8 10	1,170	15	0	1,031	4	0	32,809	18	4
Saltpond	-	6,365	18 11	15,860	12 6	932	9	0	157	8	0	23,316	8	5
Winneba	-	2,209	10 11	15,294	15 6	238	7	6	34	12	0	17,777	5	11
Accra -		17,411	5 2	28,946	6 6	1,316	17	0	300	10	0	47,974	18	8
Adda -		3,302	10 0	11,808	15 0	26	1	0	16	14	0	15,154	0	0
Kwitta		3,058	15 3	10,532	11 8	-	-		123	4	0	13,714	10	11
Other station	ıs	3,001	2 1	26,060	1 3	278	1	6.	35	18	0	29,375	2	10
Totals		56,618	19 10	135,220	3 9	4,375	1	0	1,756	16	0	189,971	10	7

GOLD COAST. 1895. 38. The following tables show the general classification of all imports and exports:—

Imports.

						Value in	Sterling.
A	rticles					Of Imports in Detail, including, Expenses.	Total Value, including Expenses.
1. Live animals, food, d	rink, a	nd narco	otics			£ s. d. 246,370 15 4	£ s. d. 246,370
2. Raw materials:							
(a) Textile -					-	Nil.	_
(b) Metal -					-	Nil.	-
(c) Other -					-	28,941 4 10	28,941 4 10
. Manufactured article	s:						
(a) Textile -				-		329,314 2 6	-
(b) Metal -						51,112 0 8	_
(c) Other -				-		189,930 5 8	570,356 8 10
. Coin and Bullion						85,868 12 7	85,868 12 7
Totals						-	931,537 1 7

Exports.

	Value in	Sterling.				
Articles.	Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British and Foreign and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Totals.			
1. Live animals, food, drink, and anarcotics	£ s. d. 53 7 0	£ s. d. 3,815 3 0	£ s. d. 3,868 10 0			
2. Raw materials:						
(a) Textile	704 5 9		704 5 9			
(b) Metal	91,566 19 9		91,566 19 9			
(c) Other	728,108 3 1		728,108 3 1			
3. Manufactured articles:						
(a) Textile	8 4 3	6,766 9 8	6,774 13 11			
(b) Metal		1,008 11 2	1,008 11 2			
(c) Other	46 17 0	4,143 14 7	4,190 11 7			
4. Coin and Bullion	-	41,581 17 0	41,581 17 0			
Totals	820,487 16 10	57,315 15 5	877,803 12 3			

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39. The supply of the staple articles, viz.—palm oil, palm Gold Coast. kernels, and rubber—has been satisfactory, as the following figures show:—

	Year.		Pal	m Oil.	Palr	n Kernels.	. Ri	ibber.
	Year		Gallons.	Value	Tons.	Value.	Lbs.	Value.
1894		-	4,213,935	£ s. d. 237,623 3 9	17,136	£ s. d. 112,373 6 1	3,027,527	£ s. d. 232,550 5 6
1895			4,338,627	231,415 0 9	15,559	93,384 11 10	4,022,385	322,070 0

- 40. The amount of rubber exported during the year is the highest on ecord. The increase was not, however, it is to be regretted, due to greater industry on the part of the natives engaged in the trade, but to speculations on the part of European firms, which imported large quantities from the neighbouring Colony of Lagos for re-export from the Gold Coast. These speculations have come to an end, and as it is understood that large quantities of rubber are being exported from the Congo Free State, the profits to be made out of rubber are likely to diminish unless the trade is fostered by improved communication with the interior districts of the Colony.
- 41. The export of mahogany and other woods of the Colony shows a marked falling off, but this may be fairly set down to the exceptionally dry year. The rivers by which the logs are brought to the sea were, in consequence of the comparatively small rainfall, so low during the greater part of the year that the logs could not be floated down. The trade of the last six years is shown by the following figures:—

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
1890 -	Feet. 6,375	£ s. d 510 18
1891 -	- 1,350,226	22,096 12 5
1892 -	2,130,614	36,407 6
1893 -	3,412,486	50,428 9 4
1894 -	- 5,012,670	69,405 13 10
1895 -	3,587,337	28,244 14 5

42. The export of cacao, coffee, and kola nuts, to which minor industries attention has been prominently called in previous reports, continue to be most satisfactory, and it is gratifying to be able to record that there is every indication of further and continuous improvement in the future. The export of copra and guinea grains has, on the other hand, declined.

Year.	9730	cacao.		Coffee.	(Copra.	Guin	ea Grains.	Kol	a Nuts.
Tour.	Lbs.	Value.	Lts.	Value.	Lbs.	Value.	Lbs.	Value.	Packages.	Value.
1893 -	3,460	£ s d. 93 17 10	21,437	£ s. d. 630 13 3	248,304	£ s. d. 831 5 0	83,224	£ s. d. 621 2 3	979	£ s. d
1894 -	20,312	546 17 4	41,488	1,265 3 4	649,600	1,940 1 7	174,412	1,186 17 4	1,202	28,511 18 1
1895 -	28,906	470 11 7	51,755	1,753 17 5	482,608	1,712 13 5	154,693	580 15 7	2,352	30,565 13

43. The slaughter of monkeys is decreasing, probably because the traders in monkey skins have now to go further into the interior to find the monkeys they require. In the last six years no less than 884,768 monkey skins have been exported, to the value of 195,300l. 13s. 3d., and as only skins in good condition with few shot holes in them are saleable, it is probable that within that period as many as one million monkeys have been massacred in the Gold Coast.

	Year.		Number of Skins.	Val	ue.	
1890		-	169,040	£ 28,053	s. 9	d. 1
1891		-	187,070	30,403	11	11
1892		-	188,646	34,807	19	5
1893	-		181,059	46,813	15	0
1894	-	-	168,405	41,001	14	10
1895	-	-	90,548	14,220	3	0
			884,768	195,300	13	3

- 44. The market prices of nearly all articles of export have shown a decline, and in many cases as, for example, mahogany, kola nuts, cacao, guinea grains, and monkey skins, the fall in prices has been most marked, so that the year cannot be said to have been a favourable one for exporters. It must be remarked, however, that the values entered in the invoices, which are the values taken by the Government, are the approximate values at the port of shipment.
- 45. A report upon trade in West Africa would not be complete without a reference to the liquor traffic about which so many conflicting opinions have been expressed.
- 46. As stated in paragraph 5, the actual revenue from alcoholic liquors was 135,220l. 3s. 9d., being an increase of 2,958l. 6s. 7d. over the revenue of 1894. The increase is shown by districts as follows:—

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	Ι	district.				1894.		1895.	Increase.
Axim -				. 76.		£ s. 4,950 7	d. 6	£ s. d. 6,119 12 6	£ s. d 1,169 5 0
Cape Coast				No.		20,258 2	6	20,597 8 10	339 6 4
Saltpond -	1	٠.,				16,320 7	6	15,860 12 6	Total Princip
Winneba -						14,903 0	0	15,294 15 6	391 15 6
Accra -	-	1.1				28,761 18	6	28,946 6 6	184 8 0
Adda -	1	5 0.1		17000	-	10,569 7	1	11,808 15 0	1,239 7 11
Kwitta -			-		-	11,566 14	2	10,532 11 8	声。14 15
Other District	3 -	of the	9 -943	H- nd	-	24,931 9	6	26,060 1 3	1,128 11 9
									4,452 14 6
Less dec	reases	Saltpon	d and	Kwitta				in the second	1,493 17 6
To	tals		124			132,261 17	2	135,220 3 9	2,958 17 0

47. Only in the Axim and Adda districts have material increases taken place, and they are to be accounted for by special causes and not by an additional craving for drink on the part of the normal population. In the Axim district the investment of capital by English companies and English firms in mining and timber concessions has had the result of attracting labour both imported and native, and Adda is the district from which the countries of Attabubu and the other Brong tribes recently added to the Protectorate draw their supplies.

48. A comparison of the importation of the alcoholic liquors into the Gold Coast during the years 1894 and 1895 is given in the following table:—

Description of		Quantity	imported.	T	D
Liquor.		1894.	1895.	Increase.	Decrease,
Rum		Old Wine Galls. 985,121	Old Wine Galls. 1,007,340	Old Wine Galls. 22,219	Old Wine Galis.
Gin and Geneva		317,778	333,219	15,441	-
Whisky -		7,720	12,769	5,049	-
Brandy -		875	677	Sugar of States	198
Wines		20,619	18,956	or com	1,663
Ale and porter		18,947	23,214	4,267	refered in the
Liqueurs, &c		2,953	2,426	_	527
Totals -	-	1,354,013	1,398,601	46,976	2,388
		Total incre	ease in 1895	44,588	

In Imperial measures the actual importation during the year 1895 was 1,165,500 gallons. The population, with that of the

Gold Coast. additional countries incorporated into the Protectorate during the year may be set down at 1,700,000.

49. It has been often contended by many persons that the quality of the trade gin imported into West Africa is so deleterious as to be harmful to the persons drinking it, but this contention is, I think, sufficiently disproved by an analysis made by Mr. G. W. Robertson, Fellow of the Chemical Society and an Associate of the Institute of Chemistry, at the request of Sir Claude MacDonald while Commissioner and Consul General for the Niger Coast Protectorate.

Mr. Robertson's report is dated the 14th October 1895, and is as follows:—

"Analysis of sample of trade gin received 2nd October 1895.

"I have the honour to report as follows :-

" It contains-

	o continue				Per cent	
66	Absolute alcohol			-	39.3	
66	Acidity, expressed	d as aceti	c ac	eid -	0.00	68
"	Ethers, expressed	as acetic	eth	er -	0.02	1
66	Aldehydes		-	Present	in small	quantity.
66	Furfural -		-	,,		"
"	Higher alcohols	-	-	"		3)

"The only alcohol that can be estimated quantitatively is ethyl alcohol: there is no methyl, and the higher alcohols, as shown by Sivalle's method, only exist in traces. The spirit is flavoured by more than one essential oil, and apparently oil of juniper is one of these oils. The liquid contains no sugar, and leaves but a small extract.

"In my opinion the liquid essentially consists of a pure distilled spirit with essential oils. Of course no attempt to identify these oils in the quantity sent—viz., 632 c.c.—was made. The ethers are returned as ethyl acetate, but from a fractional distillation amyl acetate was qualitatively found to be present."

It would seem from this analysis that the trade gin of West Africa is neither more nor less deleterious than the gin sold all over London.

SHIPPING.

50. Although the steamers placed by the General Steam Navigation Company in the West African trade were taken off early in the year, the number of steamers arriving with

merchandise at ports in the Colony shows no falling off, as will Gold Colst. be seen from the following figures:—

1895.

				Sailing	Vesse	ls.		Steam	mers.	
				1894.		1895.		1894.		1895.
and the Admition			No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
United Kingdom	1		4	691	3	642	261	353,002	271	380,213
Germany -	N - 1		_	_	_	-	90	108,192	79	92,765
France		elma.	4	1,900	3	875	43	49,765	45	49,469
Italy		hij.	9	3,064	-	-	_			
United States -		1	7	3,370	7	3,269	_	-	_	- No like
Other nations -	-	Kanto	-		1	222	1	1,008	4	11,604
Totals -			24	9,025	14	5,008	395	511,967	399	534,051

51. Nearly all the steamers become coasting steamers as soon as they have entered, that is to say, they touch at one or more of the 19 ports of entry to unload merchandise or take in produce. 122 steamers entered at Kwitta, whereas only 88 entered at Accra, but it must not be inferred from those figures that there is more trade at Kwitta than at Accra. With the exception of the small but rising port of Danoe, Kwitta is the first port of entry eastward, and the steamers which enter there nearly all touch at Adda, Accra, Saltpond, Cape Coast, Axim, or other ports. Similarly Axim, at which 60 steamers are recorded as having entered, is the first important port of entry westward, but the trade of that port is less than that of Cape Coast, where only 51 steamers are recorded as having entered, or, in other words, made Cape Coast the first port of call.

AGRICULTURE.

52. The land is not generally cultivated. Naturally rich, the soil will produce almost any commodity of market value. It abounds in the oil palm, mahogany, and other valuable woods, rubber trees and vines, and the kola tree with its valuable nut, but, chiefly on account of the absence of proper roads, and the general ignorance of the natives, products which require a careful preparation of the soil and supervision, such as coffee, cacao, cotton, rice, &c., have not been cultivated systematically. The wants of the natives are few, and are met by planting maize, yams, cassada, and plaintains; the plantations being shifted from one spot to another as may be necessary.

53. The establishment by the Government of a botanical station at Aburi in 1890 has been the means of inducing the

GOLD COAST. natives in the immediate neighbourhood of the station to interest themselves in the cultivation of coffee, and, as the figures given under the head of exports show, not without result. for coffee pulping has been imported, and it is intended to give practical instruction to the natives in its use, so as to show them how the berry can best be prepared for export.

- 54. The system of apprenticing natives to the botanical station for instruction in agriculture, to which reference is made in paragraph 51 of last year's report, has, it must be admitted with regret, not been a success. A change is to be made. It is proposed to select a certain number of natives of education (a competitive examination will be held, the standard being Standard VI. of the elementary schools), who will be trained for one year under the curator of the botanical station in the Gold Coast, then for one year in the botanical station at Jamaica, and, finally, for one year in the Royal Gardens at Kew. The lads thus selected and trained will be required to apprentice themselves to the Government for a definite period, and will be employed in such manner as may be considered best for disseminating a proper knowledge of cultivating products of economic value among the natives, and stimulating them to apply themselves to an industry which will be of benefit to themselves as well as their country.
- 55. There are large quantities of sheep and cattle in the Colony chiefly in the hands of the Mohammedan population. A ready market for them is found in the Coast towns, and there is no doubt that the industry of sheep rearing and cattle breeding is largely The native oxen are small, but are sturdy and strong, and at the time of writing this report a native of standing in the Colony is training a yoke of oxen to draw timber from land in his position along the new road, which is being constructed between Accra and Kibbi a circumstance which I am glad to mention, because it illustrates the fact that if roads are constructed by the Government wheeled traffic will follow.
- 56. Locusts were again very troublesome in many parts of the Colony during the year under review, and did considerable damage to the standing crops. They have been identified by the authorities of the British Museum as of the same species as those of Abyssinia, and it is probable, therefore, that the swarms which have passed through the Gold Coast came originally from the eastward. Prior to 1893 the last visitation of locusts appears to have occurred as far back as 1852. It is generally stated that the swarms in 1895 were less numerous than in 1894, the eggs having been destroyed by the heavy rains, but in many districts the rise in the price of the native-grown foodstuffs has testified to the ravages which they committed. In Wassaw, for example, the price of 100 stalks of maize rose from 1s. 3d. to 3s. 6d. visitation of locusts is being watched by the Government with anxiety, but the heavy bush throughout the country must render

concerted action against the locusts difficult; the heavy rains and Gold Coast. the annual burning of grass and bush by the natives will, it is believed, do much to counteract the evil.

MANUFACTURES, MINES, &c.

- 57. I the report on the Blue Book for 1894 (paragraph 52) I referred to the existence of petroleum in Appollonia. A company has been floated in order to work the springs, and machinery for the purpose is being imported.
- 58. Several companies and syndicates have been launched for taking up timber and mining concessions obtained from the native Kings and Chiefs, and already some activity has been displayed, mining machinery and other plant having in some cases been sent to Appollonia, which is the principal field of operations. One company intends to connect the port of Half Assinie, by means of a light railway with the Tando lagoon, in order to facilitate the conveyance to the Coast of the timber cut down on their concessions.
- 59. Concessions of various kinds purporting to cede valuable tracts of country, often for most inadequate sums, having greatly increased in number, it was decided to issue the following notice, which was published also in the English newspapers:—

Colonial Secretary's Office, Accra, October 10, 1895.

"Whereas grants and concessions have been made by Chiefs within the Protectorate without the consent of the Governor of

the Colony:

"Notice is hereby given that no document hereafter made purporting to grant or convey any right over or interest in land, save and except the right to occupy agricultural land for the purposes of native husbandry, or the right to occupy building land for the erection of a native house, will be recognised in any way by the Government unless it shall bear the signature of the Governor, or of such officer as he shall appoint for the purpose, in token of Her Majesty's approval.

"Grants and concessions already made without such consent will be recognised only to such extent and on such conditions as may hereafter be determined, but the grantees of rights in respect of which there is a reasonable prospect of efficient and continuous work being done within a reasonable time will receive

all due consideration.

"By His Excellency's Command,
"F. M. HODGSON,
"Cotonial Secretary."

60. The following table shows the amount and value of the gold dust and nuggets exported from the Gold Coast during each of the last seven years:—

o \$4530.

GOLD COAST. 1895.

77.00	Year.		Weight.	Val	ie.	
1889		-	Ozs. 28,667	£ 103,200		d. 0
1890	-	-	25,460	91,657	0	0
1891		-	24,476	88,112	0	0
1892	- 9	-	27,446	98,805	17	0
1893	-	7	21,972	79,099	4	0
1894		-	21,332	76,795	17	5
1895		-	25,416	91,497	12	0

61. Notwithstanding the fact that gold dust is not a legal tender, merchants still accept it in the way of trade. During 1895 as much as 11,557 ounces, of the value of 41,605l. 18s. 1d., were accepted and exported, as compared with 10,447 ounces in 1894, of the value of 37,610l. 3s. 7d. The output from the mines during 1894 was, therefore, 13,859 ounces, of the value of 53,887l. 8s. 5d.

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

62. There are three gaols and nine lock-ups in the Colony, and 2006 persons, classified as follows were committed to confinement in them:—

For debt - - - - 376

For safe custody until trial or for want of security - - - 564

For purposes of penal imprisonment - 1,066

Of the 1,066 persons committed for penal imprisonment, 868 were committed for three months or less, and of the remainder 408 were old offenders.

6 3. hefollowing table gives statistics for the past five years:—

	Yea	irs.		Males.	Females.	Juveniles.	Totals.
1891	-	•	-	1,677	85	8	1,766
1892			-	1,475	48	11	1,534
1893			-	1,513	61	15	1,589
1894			-	1,550	74	20	1,644
1895			-	1,859	101	46	2,006

64. During the year 729 prisoners were treated in the gaol Gold Coast. infirmaries, and the attendances, or out-patients, amounted to 10,661.

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65. The following comparative statement of sickness and death among prisoners during the last five years is worthy of notice:-

	Year.	Total Number of Prisoners.	Treated in Hospital.	Total Attendances or Out patients.	Deaths.
1891 -	0.100	1,766	318	11,028	7
1892 -	-	1,534	240	12,338	16
1893 -		1,589	337	9,262	27
1894 -	18-16	1,644	339	5,773	17
1895 -		2,006	729	10,661	37

66. The large number of admissions into hospital during the year, as compared with previous years is, the Chief Medical Officer states, "largely explained by the cachetic diseases from which " the prisoners suffered, more or less acquired before admission " into prison, and to catarrhal affections induced by the excessive " heat and moisture, and the intensity of activity of the endemic " malarial poison which characterised the year."

67. Of the 37 cases that ended fatally the following were the causes of death :-

Aneurism	-0	-	10000		1
Bronchitis	A STATE OF		-/		4
Cancer of liver	-	-		-	1
Cardiac disease		-	-	-	3
Debility			•		4
Diarrhœa	-		4	and the	9
Dysentery			4	The state of	8
Fever -			-	-	1
Disease of kidne	у			-	1
Phthisis -	-		- 400	-	2
Rheumatism	-		-14 375		1
Tuberculosis			S IN SE	416	1
Wound	-				1

68. The year 1895 was remarkable for the small rainfall. greater number of the deaths among the prisoners occurred during the latter half year when the heat was very great and debilitating. GOLD COAST. 1895.

- 69. The forms of hard labour consist of breaking and carrying stones, repairing and clearing roads, picking cotton and cocoanut fibre, mason's and bricklayer's work, coopering, whitewashing prisons and other public buildings, transport services; and in the Accra gaol, where classes under qualified instructors have been formed, carpenters' and joiners' work, tailoring of all kinds, boot and shoe making and mending and other work in leather, basket making and weaving, as well as cloth weaving.
- 70. Light labour is represented by sweeping, minor sanitary work, and plaiting straw for mats.
- 71. The total cost of the prisons establishment has during the last five years been as follows:—

					£	S.	d.	
1891		 -		-	4,230	10	0	
1892	-		10-	-	5,387	1	8	
1893		-	1 2 80%	-	5,511	8	3	
1894		100	-		5,720	13	1	
1895	-			-	6,601	4	7	

72. The want of a central prison, in which convicts can be confined in separate cells, and can be brought under proper disciplinary restrictions, has long been felt. A building to be erected in the vicinity of Accra has been designed, and it is hoped that an early commencement in its erection will be made.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

73. During the year 6,499 offences were reported to the police, as compared with 6,700 in 1894. Of these cases 1,682 were discharged or dismissed, 4,509 were summarily dealt with, and 276 referred to the Supreme Courts.

HOSPITALS.

- 74. Public hospitals are maintained by the Government at Accra, Cape Coast, Elmina, Axim, and Kwitta, and free dispensaries at Ada, Akuse, Chama, Saltpond, and Winneba.
- 75. A public hospital was erected at Kwitta during the year, and a military hospital at Accra, for the treatment of the Hausa Constabulary at headquarters, was completed and brought into use.
- 76. At Accra and Cape Coast permanent hospitals exist for contagious diseases, and at the other stations temporary arrangements are made as the necessity for them arises.
- 77. The number of patients treated, both in the hospitals and at the dispensaries, has largely increased, and there can be no doubt that the boon conferred upon the public by these institutions is very largely appreciated.

78. The following table shows the number of in-patients treated Gold Coast. in the hospitals during the last six years:—

				Patients	discharged.		
	Year.		Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	Deaths.	Total.
1890 -	-	-	769	179	40	47	1,035
1891 -		-	572	212	41	48	873
1892 -		-	840	272	47	71	1,230
1893 -	-	-	836	294	36	94	1,260
1894 -	-	-	1,050	295	32	84	1,461
1895 -	-		1,271	312	52	95	1,801

- 79. Small-pox, which towards the close of 1894 threatened to spread in an epidemic form throughout the Colony, was fortunately successfully contended with. 193 cases came under treatment, the disease being of a mild type. 138 persons were vaccinated, with successful results in 96 cases.
- 80. The general health of the Colony was extremely bad, the endemic fever assuming a pseudo-epidemic form of a malignant type, closely approaching in its clinical manifestations the Yellow Fever of the West Indies. The death rate among Europeans was very high, and the excitement induced thereby amounted at one time almost to a panic, and served to intensify the fatal tendencies of the prevailing fever in the latter part of the year. The disease was practically limited to Axim, Chama, Elmina, Cape Coast, Saltpond, and Accra, but with varying intensity at each of these places. To insanitary causes, aggravated by the excessive humidity of the atmosphere, high shade temperature, and practically no rainfall, intensifying the action of pathogenic organisms of every kind, and especially the endemic malarial poison, must be attributed the malignant type of the fever.

81. The European mortality from all causes was as under:—

		Among Officials.	Non-Officials
Accra		Per 1,000. 22 · 72	Per 1,000. 60.97
Axim		 Nil.	7.76
Cape Coast		307	89.29
Chama	-	 250	Nil.
Elmina	-	200	Nil.
Saltpond	100	 250	142.8

GOLD COAST. 1895.

PUBLIC LUNATIC ASYLUM.

82. The following table shows the number of lunatic patients treated in the Government Lunatic Asylum since its establishment in 1887:—

				3-17	Discha			Remaining						
	Year.		Admitted.		Cured.		Relieved.		Not improved.		Deaths.		31st December.	
			M.	F.	м.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1887			14	5	_	_	1			-	2	-	11	5
1888			17	3	3	_	-	_	1	-	8	3	16	5
1889			10	3	5	2	_	-	-	_	4	1	17	5
1890			12	_	2	_	1	-	_	_	6	1	20	4
1891			10	3	3	_	_	/	_	-	3	1	24	6
1892	7.70		21	2	7	_	_	_	1	_	6	1	31	7
1893			8	4	_		5	2	_	-	2	-	32	9
1894			22	6	_	_	11	-	-	-	3	_	40	15
1895			11	4	_	_	12	1	_	_	6	2	33	14*
	otals		125	30	20	2	30	3	2	-	38	9	-	-

^{*} Two females escaped, and were not recaptured before the end of the year.

83. There is a large flower and vegetable garden attached to the asylum in which as many lunatics as possible are employed. During the year 12 male and 3 female lunatics were so employed.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

84. The year 1895 will long be known on account of its phenomenally small rainfall. At Accra, where statistics are carefully taken, only 17:33 inches are recorded for the whole year. The heaviest rainfall was in March, when there were 3:69 inches, May standing next with 3:38 inches. The heaviest rainfall in one day was 1:96 inches, which occurred in March.

85. During the last six years the rainfall at Accra has been as

follows :-									
						-	29.53 in	ches.	
1890									
1891	-	- 4	-	•	-	-	28.97	9)	
1892			-	-	•		29.27	"	
1893	-	-	-	153	-	-	28.73	,,	
1894	-	-	-	-	-		23.32	99	
1895		-	-	-	-	-	17.33	"	
		4 .	1	•	-1-		+	+	

86. The average daily maximum shade temperature was 85.5° F.

SAVINGS BANKS.

87. The number of depositors has increased from 330 in 1894 to 388 in 1895, and the balance standing to the credit of depositors from 5,162l. 1s. 10d. to 5,578l. 13s.

88. The increase in the number of depositors at each bank is Gold Coast. shown by the following comparative statement:—

1895.

Bank.			No. of Do	epositors.	Increase	
			1894.	1895.	Increase	
Accra -	_		115	121	6	
Adda -		- 1	74	77	3	
Axim -	-	-	12	15	3	
Cape Coast			36	52	16	
Chama -	-	-	5	6	1	
Elmina -	-	-	16	27	11	
Kwitta -	-	-	16	18	2	
Saltpond	-	-	18	26	8	
Tarkwa -	*	- 1	34	42	8	
Winneba	-	-	4	4	-	
Total	-	-	330	388	58	

89. An attempt has been made to properly classify depositors with the following result:—

Occuj	patio	on.			No. of Accounts
Auctioneers -			-	-	1
Bakers -	_	-	-		2
Barristers .		_	_	-	4
Bootmakers -		-	-	-	2
Blacksmiths .		_	_	-	1
Bricklayers -		-	-	-	ī
Cabinet-makers		-			î
Clerks -		_ 11		_	31
Editors -	- 9	-		_	1
Engineers .	17			-	î
Goldsmiths -				_	2
Institutions, &c					31
Krooboys -	•			-	23
Labourers					31
Managers •				-	1
Miners -	31.6			-	6
Ministers of reli	irior			-	3
Officials, Europ		1-		-	42
					52
Officials, Native	3		-		1
			41.374		1
Photographers -		-		-	34
Police Printers				-	2
Cabaal abildoon				-	6
School children	5	-	-	-	4
School masters	and	misi	resses	-	
Servants -		•	-	-	15
Tailors	•	-	-	-	2
Traders -	٠	-	•	-	18
Occupation not	stat	ea		-	69
	Tota	al		-	388

GOLD COAST. 1895. 90. The majority of the accounts are for sums under 5l. The number of such accounts remaining open on the 31st December was 278, as compared with 234 in 1894.

91. The following table shows the position of the Savings

Bank at the end of each year of its existence:-

	Year.		Balance.	Deposits.	Interest due on Deposits.	Total.	Amounts withdrawn.	Interest paid on Withdrawals.	Total.	Balance.
1888			£ s. d.	£ s. d. 993 19 0	£ s. d. 7 4 4	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 51 13 0	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 51 13 0	£ s. d. 949 10 4
1889			949 10 4	2,663 10 0	40 14 2	3,653 14 6	439 9 0	1 2 7	440 11 7	3,213 2 11
1890			3,213 2 11	1,665 6 8	45 19 11	4,924 9 6	2,705 6 6	3 13 3	2,708 19 9	2,215 9 9
1891			2,215 9 9	3,212 11 2	64 1 7	5,492 2 6	2,331 7 8	9 2 3	2,340 9 11	3,151 12 7
1892			3,151 12 7	3,144 2 8	88 3 0	6,383 18 3	2,865 4 2	9 6 0	2,874 10 2	3,509 8 1
1893		•	3,509 8 1	3,112 5 6	83 10 9	6,705 4 4	2,776 11 0	4 5 10	2,780 16 10	3,924 7 6
1894			3,924 7 6	5,999 19 7	104 6 11	10,028 14 0	4,860 5 4	6 6 10	4,866 12 2	5,162 1 10
1805		-	5,162 1 10	4,996 6 9	110 13 1	10,269 1 8	4,681 10 2	8 16 6	4,690 8 5	5,578 13 0

GOLD COAST. 1895. 92. I wrote last year as follows:—"The rate of progress in thrift as shown by the Government Savings Bank is to the superficial observer distressingly slow, but the progress is nevertheless sure, and side by side with it is the knowledge that many natives, instead of placing their savings in the bank, employ them in, to the native, more congenial method of increasing capital by small trading operations, which in this country require only a small cash basis." As education spreads so also will the natives see the many advantages to be gained by thrift, and many of those who now bury their money in the ground will lodge it in the bank. There are penny banks in connexion with eight of the schools of the Colony in which there are upwards of 500 depositors, and it is hoped that the habits of thrift thus early inculcated will remain in many cases in after life.

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH STATISTICS.

Post Office.

93. An increase of postal business has again to be recorded, as will be seen by the following comparative table:—

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			No. of	Estimated No. of	No. of		Money Orde	ers.	Inland	Parcels Post.		
	Year.		Offices open.	No. of registered Articles dealt with.		No. of Offices open. Value of Inland Orders.		Value of Foreign Orders.	Inland Postal Orders.	No. of Offices open.	No. of Parcels.	Receirts.
	1888	-	17	111,041	7,836	2	£ s. d. 1,939 8 2	£ s. d. 6,709 3 7	£ s. d.	3	826	£ s. d. 31 19 11
	1889	-	26	146,905	9,739	2	1,209 19 1	4,572 2 6	-	3	1,407	55 14 6
	1890		26	161,726	10,862	2	1,681 11 11	3,481 18 0	_	3	1,902	102 8 9
	1891	-	30	205,035	11,227	3	1,985 1 4	5,142 18 11	_	3	2,368	146 8 9
	1892	-	31	225,293	12,362	5	3,193 8 0	7,251 1 11		3	2,379	104 19 1
	1893	-	31	335,112	15,956	5	3,787 11 2	9,525 13 7	1,231 3 6	7	2,762	216 6 0
	1894	-	32	386,028	18,068	5	3,382 9 3	9,888 19 0	2,021 7 6	7	3,224	247 5 3
1	1895	-	32	390,502	17,474	5	*1,679 5 11	15,397 9 0	2,150 13 6	7	3,518	273 1 9

^{*} In previous years the value of the Foreign Orders issued at the General Post Office, Accra, has been wrongly included in this column.

G OLD COAST. 1895. 94. The inland mail services were satisfactorily performed during the year, not a single accident to them having to be recorded. Mails are carried on the heads of the natives to all places to which postal communication has been extended, at an average cost of 2d. a mile.

95. The question of increasing the number of offices available for the transaction of money order business will, it is hoped, be taken up in the near future. There is no doubt that in this and in other ways the usefulness of the Post Office can be considerably

extended.

Telegraphs.

96. The extension of the telegraph system to Prahsu, which was commenced in September, was by the 31st December carried a short distance beyond Mansu, where a telegraph office was opened. Altogether 40 miles of line were constructed.

97. The wire between Cape Coast and Elmina was duplicated, and a commencement made towards completing the duplication of the wire between Accra and Cape Coast, between which stations

the substitution of iron for wooden posts was completed.

98. There have been several instances of theft by the natives of the copper telegraph wire, copper wire being in request for native bangles, and it is in contemplation to pass an Ordinance making the Chiefs, where necessary, responsible for the safety of the wire in their respective districts.

99. There was a considerable increase in the number of messages dealt with irrespective of the traffic arising out of the dispatch of the expedition to Kumasi. The number of messages

was 81,688, as compared with 73,776 in 1894.

100. The arrangements made in 1894 for the transmission of bonâ fide press messages at a reduced rate were taken advantage of for the first time. It was hoped, when the arrangements were made, that the editors of the local newspapers would avail themselves of the facilities thus afforded to make their papers of more interest, but their want of enterprise is illustrated by the fact that only a very small number of press telegrams was supplied to the newspapers during the Ashanti Expedition.

101. 889 telegrams were forwarded from the Gold Coast to Togoland, and 948 messages were received. Of the former no less than 693 were handed in at Kwitta, where there are German mercantile firms having factories at Lome and Klein Popo.

102. The following table shows the growth of telegraph business since the 24th of May 1887, when the telegraphs were first opened for the transmission of public messages:—

	V		Number of	Miles of	N	umber of Telegra	ams dealt wi	th.		Receipts.	
Year.			Offices.	Wire.	Public.	Public. Government. Cable. Total. Inland Telegrams.		For Cable Company.	Totals.		
1887			9	108	4,399	17,130	-	21,529	£ s. d. 252 0 9	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 252 0 9
1888			11	178	9,243	27,223	_	36,466	518 7 0	_	518 7 0
1889			11	178	14,493	22,481	715	37,689	786 1 0	904 4 7	1,690 5 7
1890			12	178	17,722	22,286	1,029	41,037	927 6 0	1,233 13 3	2,260 19 3
1891			13	210	17,513	21,157	1,274	39,944	1,015 10 9	1,586 17 1	2,602 7 10
1892	30		16	265	19,773	25,365	1,516	46,654	1,182 18 4	1,822 7 0	3,005 5 4
1893			18	368	27,934	30,063	2,034	60,031	1,822 7 0	2,466 7 7	4,288 14 7
1894			20	375	39,432	32,012	2,332	73,766	2,293 8 2	2,377 1 3	4,670 9 5
1895			21	415	42,722	36,275	2,693	81,690	2,509 2 9	2,906 2 5	5,415 5 1

GOLD COAST. 1895

32

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION.

103. In September two engineers selected by Messrs. Coode, Son, and Matthews arrived in the Colony for the purpose of making :-

1. A survey of the reefs at Accra with a view to the designing of a breakwater to afford shelter for lighters and launches, and a place at which heavy goods can be landed and shipped in smooth water;

2. A survey of the bar at the mouth of the Volta River in order to promote the development of the navigation of that important waterway;

3. The examination of the upper reaches of the Volta in the vicinity of Kpong, where there are at present impediments in the way of navigation; and

4. The inspection of some of the ports on the coast which may seem to offer conditions entitling them to consideration in connexion with railway schemes.

104. Addressing the Legislative Council on the 28th October,

the Governor made the following remarks:-

"Under ordinary circumstances these preliminary surveys and investigations must occupy several months, and it cannot be expected that reports and designs can be ready before the summer of 1896, or that definite schemes can be proposed for consideration here until this time next year. Upon the result of the work just described must in a great measure depend the decision of the Government upon the railway question. Stated generally, the railway policy of this Colony is as follows:-The conditions under which bulky produce is transported from the interior to the Coast are such that, beyond a certain distance inland, products have no commercial value; a new producing sphere could be tapped if a railway of 50 or 60 miles in length were constructed, and trade could be further developed by the gradual extension of the line; it is therefore desirable to carry a railway inland from the place best adapted for development as a harbour. What that place shall be is the matter now under consideration. Appam has been suggested by Captain Lang, R.E., who has surveyed a route from Accra, not unnaturally, has its advocates, and there that place. may be other proposals. Under the circumstances, it will be apparent that it has not been possible to include in the estimates for 1896 any provision for railway expenditure."

105. The necessity for training natives as engineers in connexion with the proposed railway has not been overlooked, and a scheme has been drafted by which selected candidates will be sent to Ceylon to undergo a course of instruction in the technical school and afterwards at the Government factory, the railway workshops, and on construction works in the Public Works Department. It is hoped that the arrangements will be completed and the first batch of apprentices sent to Ceylon in 1896

106. During the year some progress was made in the construc- GOLD COAST. tion of trade roads. The trade road from Cape Coast through Denkera and Setwhi was completed to a distance of three miles north of Jukwa, some 15 miles of the trade road from Saltpond to the interior was constructed, and the survey and laying out the new trade road along the right bank of the Volta between Kpong and Tinkranku was carried to a distance of 120 miles. Further, the trade road between Accra and Insawam and thence viâ Apedjua to Kibbi (Eastern Axim) was commenced, and completed to a distance of 10 miles. In respect of this road the Government has been able to get much of the work done by contract and it is hoped that the system of contracts for road work will be extended.

107. The Roads Department, which was sanctioned in 1893 and established in 1895, has been abolished, and it has been recommended that the staff, reduced, however, to two surveyors and two assistant surveyors, should be placed under the Director of Public Works and made a branch of the Public Works Department.

108. In paragraph 55 of this report I have referred to the introduction of wheeled traffic on one of the newly constructed roads, a circumstance which will probably necessitate a revision of the order for the construction of roads of only 12 feet in width. In the adjacent German Colony of Togoland the width of the roads under construction by the Government is 16 feet.

109. The construction of a bridge over the Sweet River, which crosses the coast road between Cape Coast and Elmina, has been completed, and cannot fail to facilitate inter-communication

between the two places.

110. The improvement of the ferry services throughout the Colony has engaged the attention of the Government, and a Bill has been drafted authorising the appropriation by the Government of ferries in respect of which the owners are in the habit of levying excessive tolls, or have neglected or mismanaged them, or where they are the subject of dispute between rival Chiefs or tribes.

GENERAL REMARKS.

111. Sir W. Brandford Griffith, K.C.M.G., after an administration of the Government of the Colony for a period of 91 years, retired from the Government service, and was succeeded on the 8th April by Mr. W. E. Maxwell, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements.

112. The period of Sir Brandford Griffith's administration was marked by many changes and an enormous advancement in the material prosperity of the Colony. Between the time of his assuming and relinquishing the reins of office the trade of the Colony and the revenue had been doubled.

113. The great and important question of providing a proper and sufficient water supply for the use of the people of the principal coast towns has engaged the serious attention of the

GOLD COAST. 1895. Government. The action taken as regards a water supply for Accra is referred to in paragraph 96 of the Report on the Blue Book for 1894. Artesian wells have been suggested as a solution of the difficulty, and arrangements were accordingly made for the necessary plant and tools being got out, and a competent foreman engaged to undertake the work of boring for water. The first trial will be made at Accra, and it is hoped that, if the borings should prove successful, it will be possible to establish artesian wells at all the principal coast towns.

114. Failing artesian wells, the Government has under consideration, as regards Accra, another way of providing water for the

supply of the inhabitants.

- 115. The clearance of the houses in Accra destroyed by the fire in April 1894, and the marking out of wide streets throughout the town, have been proceeded with. The improvement both in the appearance and ventilation of the town is immense, and when the work is completed the sanitary condition of Accra should be vastly improved. The public market, which was erected by the Government in 1893, and the opening of which had to be deferred in consequence of the necessity of accommodating in it the natives who had been rendered houseless by the fire, was opened by the Governor in November. It is filled to overflowing with vendors of meat, poultry, fish, vegetables, and general commodities, and has proved the boon to the community which was anticipated.
- 116. Arrangements were made with Reuter's Telegram Company for the despatch of two news telegrams a week to the Gold Coast, and the service commenced on the 12th October.
- 117. The several tribes within the Protectorate have been at peace. The Colony has within it all the essentials for prosperity. Rich in gold, in valuable timber, in soil, which will produce almost any commodity of trade value, it is already attracting the attention of capitalists, and with finances and trade in a satisfactory state, there is no reason why it should not advance in material prosperity and bring wealth to English merchants and native producers and workers.

Accra, Gold Coast, September 12, 1896. F. M. Hoddson, Acting Governor.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 178.

HONG KONG.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 148 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

September 1896.



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1896.

[C.—8279.-2.]

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ANNUAL.

No.		Year.				
145	Trinidad and Tobago					1894
146	Gibraltar -			-		,,
147	Falkland Islands -					,,
148	Hong Kong -			-	-	,,,
149	Straits Settlements		- 1		E	,,
150	Lagos	-		-	-	29
151	Seychelles -			-	-	1 "
152	Basutoland -	-		-	-	1894-95
153	Fiji				-	1894
154	St. Helena -	10-11		-		"
155	Ceylon			-	-	,,
156	Mauritius -	-			-	,,
157	Labuan	-		-	-	"
158	Gold Coast -					"
159	British Guiana -		di Paris			"
160	Sierra Leone -	- E	-	-	-	"
161	Jamaica	•		-		1894-95
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170	Sierra Leone -	-		-	-	"
171	Gibraltar		30.	-		,,,
172	Malta				3 -	"
173	Barbados	30		-	-	"
174	Turks and Caicos Island	ds -		-		"
175	Falkland Islands -		3/3-		-	,,
176	St. Helena-					,,
177	Bahamas		•	•		"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.		17.00	Subject.
1	Gold Coast -	water.		Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -	00000	0.0	Forests.
2	Sierra Leone			Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -			Emigration.
5	Bahamas -			Sisal Industry.
6				Bubonic Plaugue.
7	Hong Kong Newfoundland			Mineral Resources.

No. 178.

HONG KONG.

(For Report for 1894 see No. 148.)

Hong Kong. 1895.

Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Hong Kong,

SIR, July 30, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Blue Book for 1895, and to submit the following remarks upon the few occurrences of general interest in a prosperous but somewhat

uneventful year.

- 2. I am happy to say that the terrible scourge known as the bubonic plague, which devastated the Colony during the early summer months of 1894, did not re-appear in epidemic form during the year under review. There were, however, sporadic cases to the number of 44, of which all except one ended fatally. Three of those cases were Portuguese, and the remainder were Chinese. The measures which were taken to prevent the spread of the disease were—
 - (i.) Isolation of those attacked by the disease at the Kennedy Town Plague Hospital.

(ii.) Disinfection of the infected houses.

(iii.) Segregation for a period of ten days of the people exposed to the infection, in house-boats moored on the confines of the harbour.

It is impossible to say how far the absence of the disease in epidemic form was due to climatic conditions, and how far to the carrying out of the above-mentioned precautions.

3. Finances.

The total revenue collected during 1895 amounted to \$2,486,228.89, an increase of \$199,025.37 over the revenue of 1894, which was itself larger than that collected in any previous year. The items of revenue which contributed principally to this increase were Land Sales, Post Office, Pawnbrokers' Licences, and Stamps, which show increases of \$59,000, \$52,000, \$24,000, and \$37,000 respectively, as compared with the preceding year. On the other hand, there was a decrease of \$45,000 in the amount derived from the Opium Farm, due to the less favourable terms of a new contract which came into force on the 1st March 1895, and a decrease of \$31,000 in interest, due to the withdrawal of deposits to meet the expenditure requisite on the resumption of the plague-infected area of Taipingshan.

4

Hong Kong. 1895. The expenditure in 1895 was \$2,972,373.01, or \$903,580.52 in excess of that of the previous year. By far the larger part of this increase, however, viz., \$821,000, was expended in the resumption of the area known as Taipingshan, which was the principal scene of the ravages of the plague during 1894. Most, if not all, of this formidable expenditure will doubtless be recouped by the Government when the area, which is being completely redrained and laid out anew, is put up to public auction.

Deducting the sum of \$821,000 from the expenditure of \$2,972,373.01, the revenue and expenditure would be as follows:—

\$
2,486,228.89
2,151,373.01

Showing a surplus of

334,855.88

Other items of increased expenditure to which special attention may be drawn are:—Pensions \$12,699 increase, Post Office \$10,000 increase, due principally to a larger expenditure on transit charges incidental to extension in the business of the office, and, finally, certain very necessary additions to the staff of the Sanitary Department have raised the expenditure on that department from \$61,566 to \$84,082.

All things considered, the financial position is one of which the

Colony has no reason to complain.

The average sterling value of the dollar was slightly lower than in 1894, being about 2s. $1\frac{1}{4}d$., as against 2s. $1\frac{1}{2}d$. in that year. The former rate, however, shows a slight improvement over the average rate for the last nine months of 1894. The lowest rate touched was 1s. $11\frac{1}{2}d$. (in February and March), and the highest was 2s. $2\frac{1}{2}d$. (in November). Since May the rate varied only between 2s. $1\frac{3}{4}d$. and 2s. $2\frac{1}{2}d$.

The new British dollar was declared equal to the standard coin of the Colony from the 1st April, and the first consignment of the

coins arrived on the 12th July.

4. Coolies' Strike.

Towards the end of March a general strike of coolies took place which lasted several days, and caused very serious losses to all interested in the trade and shipping of this Colony. As this episode presents several features of more than ordinary interest,

I shall venture to relate its history at some length.

This strike had its origin in the opposition of the keepers of common lodging-houses used as dwellings by the labouring classes to certain sanitary measures designed to prevent overcrowding with all its attendant evils. These measures are embodied in certain byelaws made by the Sanitary Board in 1890, and approved by the Legislative Council in May 1891, providing for the registration of common lodging-houses. It was generally believed that these byelaws would, when enforced, meet with

prompt and determined opposition, so their operation was postponed Hong Kong. until a date to be subsequently named, and the matter was allowed

temporarily to stand over.

In view, however, of the terrible experience of the effects of the plague in 1894, aggravated as they undoubtedly were by overcrowding in the common lodging-houses, the Sanitary Board passed a further resolution to the effect that the byelaws previously made by them should come into force on and after the 1st January 1895, which resolution was unanimously approved by the Legislative Council on the 16th December 1894, and the byelaws

accordingly came into force on the 1st January 1895.

As I have already stated, it was anticipated that there would be difficulty in inducing the keepers of the lodging-houses to comply with the provisions of the byelaws. A Chinaman abhors the slightest departure from old custom, and in every fresh measure of the Government which concerns his daily life is prone to see an attempt at ultimate, if not immediate, "squeeze" or taxation. Every possible attempt was made by the Registrar General, both by oral communication and the distribution of thousands of pamphlets, to remove any apprehensions of this nature, and to assure them that the measure was not—as they at first affected to believe— a preliminary step by the Government to the imposition of a poll-tax, but that it was, on the contrary, designed with a view to their health and comfort. Beyond this alleged fear of the ultimate imposition of a poll-tax, there was not the slightest hint of any grievance on the part of the coolies. Explanations and assurances were continued for nearly three months, but as the coolies still maintained their obstructive attitude, it became evidently necessary to enforce the law without further parley. Summonses were accordingly issued against the recalcitrant keepers of common lodging-houses. But here a fresh difficulty arose, as it was found that they had decamped from the Colony.

This was met by the introduction of an Ordinance defining the term common lodging-houses and imposing the responsibility of registering, in the absence of the keepers of such houses, upon the "householder" as defined in the Public Health Ordinance, i.e., the actual tenant or occupier, or where there is no

such person the immediate landlord of a building.

In consequence of the measures taken to enforce the byelaws, a strike of the coolies employed in working coal and cargo began on the 23rd March, and on the arrival of the daily steamer from Macao on that day a number of coolies on strike endeavoured to interfere with and coerce the coolies engaged in carrying goods and baggage to the shore. The attempt was promptly defeated by the police, and two of the ringleaders were arrested and sentenced to six weeks' hard labour. The Chinese being generally of a peaceable and law-abiding disposition, there was never any serious apprehension of any outbreak of violence; nevertheless every precaution was taken to enable the Government to nip any turbulent manifestation in the bud; the Police Force was strengthened, and the streets and harbour were constantly patrolled by armed pickets,

1895,

Hong Kong. 1895. and it is satisfactory to note that with the exception of the episode above recorded no attempt at disturbance took place during the whole period of the strike. By the evening of the 23rd March there were some 3,000 coolies on strike, and next day the strikers were joined by the whole of the coolies who load and discharge coal.

This rendered the coaling of steamers impossible unless assistance of an unusual nature could be obtained. I accordingly on the 25th March caused the P. & O. S.S. "Verona" to be coaled by a gang of 50 convicts from Victoria Gaol, while the services of 100 men of the Rifle Brigade, which were voluntarily rendered and which proved highly useful, were availed of in discharging the

cargo of the P. & O. Mail S.S. "Pekin."

As it was impossible to induce coolies to work cargo in the harbour on account of the strike, it was thought that they might be induced to labour if removed to some spot remote from the scene of the strike. With this view the S.S. "Rio de Janeiro" steamed round to Aberdeen (a village on the south side of Hong Kong) where she was able to have her cargo of rice, destined for Canton, discharged into river junks. On the 26th March several other steamers followed this example. The coolies engaged in this work were protected night and day by a strong body of police in launches afloat, and police patrols were placed along the road from Victoria to Aberdeen to prevent coolies who were travelling in search of work from interference at the hands of the strikers. Work proceeded all day on the steamers without interruption.

On the morning of the 26th the licensed owners of the boats which removed cargo to and from ships endeavoured to go out on strike, but on being warned by the police that they could not leave the waters of the Colony without a clearance and that their sureties would be dealt with by the Registrar General, remained passive. Some difficulty was nevertheless experienced by firms in hiring the boats. The police therefore undertook to hire boats for them, and during the remainder of the strike cargo boats were supplied to the public by the police on the usual terms and in

whatever numbers desired.

On the 26th March the hands at the East Point and Lee Yuen Sugar Refineries also began to show signs of disaffection, and special pickets of police were told off to protect such of them as were willing to continue at work. In spite, however, of these precautions nearly the whole of the coolies at both establishments were out on strike by nightfall. On the 27th the coolies who had been working cargo on steamers at Aberdeen struck work.

The strike had now reached its acutest stage. All the coolies who handle cargo on ship and on shore and who work coal, together with nearly all the hands at the Quarry Bay, East Point, and Lee Yuen Sugar Refineries, making a total of at least 20,000, were on strike. The coolies employed by building contractors did not join in the movement, nor did any of the coolies who carry chairs and pull jinrickshas. There were also a certain number of

what are called "street coolies," who do odd jobs, carrying Hone Kone. luggage, &c., whose services were obtainable. These men were employed by the police in stevedore and coaling work, while a number of men from the Hong Kong Regiment also rendered useful aid in discharging vessels, and six petty officers of the Royal Navy were sworn in as special constables to strengthen the water police.

On the morning of the 28th the hands at the Hung Hom Docks showed a disposition to join the strike. The police were quickly on the spot and succeeded in arresting two strangers, doubtless

emissaries from the strikers in Victoria.

They could give no satisfactory account of themselves and were sentenced by the magistrate to three months hard labour as rogues and vagabonds, and the hands at the dock gave no further trouble.

The few remaining hands at the East Point refinery also struck work on the 28th March, and on the same day a public meeting of the community, convened by the Chamber of Commerce, was held to consider the crisis. An influential committee was elected to deliberate and communicate its views to the Government. Several leading merchants addressed the meeting, which appeared to be unanimous in its desire to support the Government in its determination to grant no concession whatever to the foolish prejudices of the strikers. Meanwhile there were not wanting signs that the strike was breaking down. An offer was made to one of the largest shipping firms in this Colony by a Chinese to undertake the stevedore business of the firm within 24 hours on condition that he was guaranteed permanent employment as stevedore for five years. This offer was made on the 28th March. and on the following day similar offers were made to other firms.

The hands at the three refineries returned to work on the 29th March, and the Captain Superintendent of Police was able to hire 50 coolies for a local firm at \$1 a day, and to engage 50 more at the same rate for another firm for the next morning, and more

could have been obtained on the same terms if required.

Moreover the P. & O. stevedore now expressed his willingness to obey the provisions of the byelaws as regards registration. There seemed every likelihood that the strike was about to come to an end, but the well-founded hopes of an immediate termination of the deadlock was unfortunately frustrated by the ill-timed action of the committee appointed at the public meeting to which I have referred. The committee met in conference on the 29th March with a certain number of Chinese compradores and stevedores, and the outcome of that conference was an agreement to endeavour to effect a compromise with the recalcitrant coolies, the substance of which was that the owners of lodging-houses should be allowed to register instead of the head coolies. On the evening of the same day the committee, without previously ascertaining the views of the Government, or obtaining its authority for the measure, published and circulated a handbill in Chinese stating that they intended next day to recommend a compromise of this nature to the Government, and that they felt confident that their suggestion

Hong Kong. 1895. would meet with approval. The false hopes thus raised in the coolies' minds bore bitter fruit; for, of course, the proposal when placed before the Government was unhesitatingly rejected.

The compliance with it at such a juncture would have been a complete victory for the rebellious coolies, the consequences of which could not have failed to prove disastrous to the Colony for many years to come from whatever point of view the circumstances are regarded: disastrous to health and sanitation, for the modification proposed would have been a decided obstacle to the smooth working of the very necessary byelaws; disastrous to trade and commerce, for success in this strike would inevitably have meant a succession of strikes in future years; and, far worse than all, disastrous to the future peace and good order of the Colony. It was perfectly clear that the strike was not an economical one, but was in fact nothing short of a rebellion on the part of a large section of the inhabitants against the law and the Government. This rebellion, it is true, took the form not of active opposition but of passive resistance, but it was perhaps all the more difficult to terminate on that very account. The moral effect of the slightest display of weakness on the part of the Government at such a crisis would have been harmful beyond all calculation and would have resulted in a disastrous legacy to future administrations. It is a commonplace that the Chinaman, judging others by himself, as a rule regards every concession as a sign of weakness, and had the coolies gained their point in this case, it is certain that they would have looked upon themselves as masters of the situation on any future occasion in which their wishes might conflict with the will of the Government.

The circular, however, was issued by the committee, containing what, to the Chinese mind, amounted to a pledge that Government would accept a compromise. The result was that the strike,

which showed signs of collapsing, continued.

On the morning of the 30th March a large number of coolies resumed work in the expectation that the compromise referred to would be carried into effect. When, however, it became known that it had not been accepted by Government, they left off work again, with the exception of the hands at the sugar refineries, who had never been very determined in their attitude. The coolies engaged by the Captain Superintendent of Police the previous afternoon for certain shipping firms did not keep their engagements, and before noon of the 30th March the strike had re-assumed its acutest form.

On the 1st April matters once more appeared hopeful. Early in the morning of that day the police succeeded in hiring 350 coolies for various firms at \$1 a day. A public meeting was held at 11 a.m. at which a vote of confidence in the Government was passed, and later in the day an agreement was made by the stevedore who had, as has been mentioned, in the preceding week approached certain firms, to supply stevedore coolies to the Government by whom they were let out through the agency of the police to all who required their services.

This was the beginning of the end. The strike soon collapsed, Hong Kong. and by the 4th April the labouring coolies once more resumed their work as usual.

1895.

On the 2nd April upwards of 500 coolies were supplied to various firms at \$1 a day. On the 3rd April more than 1,000 coolies were supplied at 75 cents a day, and by noon of the 4th April the strike was at an end. The victory of the Government, against which, and not against employers of labour, the strike was

organised, was complete. This happy result was, of course, not achieved without heavy losses to the mercantile community, owing to the temporary deadlock in business, and more especially shipping, but the crisis was one which did not admit of compromise, and, apart from the benefits to be looked for from the byelaws, to prevent the enforcement of which was the object of the strikers, the coolie class, who were beginning to think they held the reins of power, have received an object lesson which, it may be hoped, they will not soon forget.

Peace and Good Order.

The police statistics show an increase of 7 per cent. over 1894 in serious (so called) offences, but this may be accounted for by the depletion in population which the plague gave rise to during three months of 1894; the increase as compared with 1893, which was a normal year, is only 1.54 per cent. Three supposed murders came under the notice of the police, but in no case was the crime traced home to the perpetrator. This is just the average number of cases for the past five years. There was a very large increase (75 per cent.) in minor cases, largely due to increased activity in prosecutions for offences against sanitary arrangements, good order in the streets, and kindred offences.

Two gang robberies were reported. On the 18th November at 6.30 p.m. three men armed with revolvers entered a shop in Praya West, overawed the shop people and stole a watch, and four days later a similar robbery was successfully perpetrated in a shop in Wellington Street; the three ruffians concerned in this case succeeding in making good their escape with notes and silver to the value of \$900. The difficulties under which the police labour in their efforts to trace the offenders are very great. The possession of revolvers or other deadly weapons without a license is illegal, but from a case which has come to light during the current year it appears that these ruffians have been in the habit of evading detection by placing their weapons in pawn as "old iron" and redeeming them when required for the purposes of some outrage.

The pawnbroker in the case cited received exemplary punishment.

Shipping.

shipping of Hong Kong has been aptly termed the "lifeblood of the Colony" and supplies a very fair index of the progress of its prosperity.

Hong Kong. 1895.

The following facts may therefore be of some general interest. The total tonnage entering and clearing during the year under review amounted to 15,632,113 tons, as compared with 14,248,670 in 1894 and 14,349,122 in 1893.

There were 36,908 arrivals with a tonnage of 7,827,398 tons,

and 36,853 departures, with a tonnage of 7,804,715 tons.

The daily average of entries was 85 vessels (including junks) as against 75 in 1894, and it may be mentioned that on one occasion there were in the harbour 241 trading vessels, viz., 69 steamers, eight sailing vessels and 164 junks. For Europeanconstructed vessels the average daily entry was 12.45 as against 11.57 in 1894, and of the steamers arriving 73 per cent. were British. It is an interesting fact that the total tonnage entering and clearing at Hong Kong (exclusive of local trade) in 1895 exceeded the 1894 tonnage entering and clearing at London (exclusive of coasting trade) by 775,706 tons, also that, excluding our junk trade entirely, the tonnage entering and clearing in 1895 exceeded the 1894 tonnage at Liverpool (exclusive of coasting trade) by 1,036,008 tons, and that of Cardiff by 1,047,195 tons, while at Hong Kong in 1895, British tonnage alone exceeded the British and Foreign tonnage (exclusive of coasting trade) at Newcastle, the next port in the United Kingdom, by 3,641,524 Hong Kong being a free port, no perfectly accurate statistics of imports are obtainable, but, from enquiries made of shipping firms, it appears that the total amount of cargo imported was 2,760,954 tons, as against 2,625,610 tons in 1894. The principal variations are as follows:—

				1894.	1895.
Flour			- (60,250	101,766
Rice	-			619,075	764,368
Sugar			-	170,499	185,616
Timber			-	16,040	26,389
Kerosine			-	100,367	67,051
General		2	13 14	1,079,676	1,026,004

The above figures cannot, of course, be relied upon as strictly accurate, but they may be regarded as fairly trustworthy.

Population, &c.

The population of the Colony in 1895 is estimated by the Registrar General as follows:—

British and Foreign - - 10,828 Chinese - - - 237,670 as against 10,782 and 235,224 respectively in 1894. The death-rate per thousand in 1894 was for British and Foreign, 23.28 and for Chinese, 30.42. The death-rates in 1895 were 17.64 and 21.92 respectively, which are about the same as those of 1892 and 1893.

Hong Kong. 1895.

Public Works.

The new Central Market was completed in April and opened on the 1st May. It consists of two blocks, each two stories in height, the lower story having the main entrance from the Praya and the upper from Queen's Road, side entrances being also provided from Victoria and Jubilee Streets. Between the two blocks is a central avenue 20 feet in width, over which Inspector's quarters are constructed at each end.

The total area is 51,274 square feet, or 40,000 square feet

exclusive of the approaches and central avenue.

The work occupied five years from the commencement of the foundations, and the total cost, including the site, was \$416,000.

The extension to the gaol which was commenced in October 1893, was completed on the 20th December. The new building consists of two main blocks, three stories in height, and contains 155 separate cells, in addition to workshops and store-rooms. The whole is surrounded by a high masonry wall, and communication with the older gaol premises is provided by a sub-way

under Old Bailey Street.

The Kowloon Waterworks, commenced in June 1891, were completed during the year, and the peninsula is now entirely independent of the Hong Kong reservoirs for its water supply. The sources of supply are three valleys situated north of the village of Yaumati. In these wells have been sunk and puddle dams constructed across their outlets to prevent the escape of sub-soil waters. A clear water tank has been constructed at Yaumati, with a capacity of 148,000 gallons, and there are reservoirs at Yaumati and Hunghom with respective capacities of 162,600 and 92,850 gallons. The water is conveyed from the wells by cast-iron inverted syphons to the clear water tank at Yaumati from which it is pumped to the reservoir on the hill north of the Rifle Range and through the distributing mains to the reservoir at Hunghom. The pumping machinery was started on the 24th December, and water has been delivered under pressure since that date.

The provision of an adequate and constant water supply is one of the most important problems with which the Colony is confronted. With a view to preventing a recurrence of the state of affairs which obtained in the spring of 1894, when the long delay in the commencement of the rainy season rendered it necessary to curtail the supply to the smallest possible dimensions, to the great detriment of the health and convenience of the Colony, it was decided to enlarge the Taitam Reservoir, which is the main source of the Colony's water supply. The project included the raising of the main embankment by 12 feet 6 inches, and the

Hong Kong. 1895. overflow weir, 10 feet, thus increasing the storage capacity of the reservoirs to 390,000,000 gallons. The work on the main embankment is nearly completed and the overflow weir has been raised 5 feet.

The rainfall in 1895 was the smallest recorded: 46 inches as against an average fall of 90 inches. The yield was consequently insufficient to fill the reservoir and meet the daily requirements of the Colony. It was therefore considered desirable to extend without delay the catchment area of the Taitam Reservoir by the construction of a catchwater to intercept the flow of water from the hillside to the east of the reservoir. This work is in progress and the catchment area has already been increased by 80 acres. On the completion of the work the catchment area of the Taitam reservoir will be increased by 220 acres, making the total area 900 acres. Within this additional area are situated some perennial streams which will be intercepted, increasing not only the flow into the reservoir during the rainy season but also that during the dry season.

The Praya Reclamation is being steadily proceeded with. The improvement of the resumed plague-infected area of Taipingshan is in progress, and several other public works extraordinary of

less importance have been completed or are in hand.

Legislation.

There is little of general interest to record under this head,

An amendment to the Trade Marks Ordinances was passed, rendering it necessary that notice of an application to register marks shall be inserted at least once a month for a period of three months in the "Government Gazette" and a local newspaper

before the application can be granted.

The law relating to the carrying and possession of deadly weapons was consolidated, new provisions being added (a) prohibiting the export of arms from the Colony except under permit from the Captain Superintendent of Police; (b) requiring dealers in arms to keep a register showing particulars of all arms sold, with the name, address, &c. of the purchaser; and (c) requiring purchasers of arms to present to the vendor a valid licence to carry or possess arms.

The Stamp Ordinance of 1886 was amended, and Ordinances were also passed (1) for the protection of the Colonial defences from sketching, and (2) to empower the Governor to prohibit immigration into the Colony from ports infected by plague or

other epidemics.

The above is a brief review of a year which presents few striking incidents, but which was perhaps one of the most prosperous in the not very lengthy history of this interesting and unique Colony.

This will probably be one of the last Blue Book reports which I shall have the honour to address to you from Hong Kong, and in concluding it I would point out that the expectations I formed

and gave expression to some four and a half years ago, and which Hong Kong. were then adversely criticised and even treated in some quarters with derision, have been, or are in course of being, fulfilled. and 1895 have been exceedingly prosperous years, notwithstanding serious impediments, and I hope and have every reason to believe that this Colony, looking to its remarkable vitality, will, in the future, continue to advance in wealth and prosperity.

I have, &c.

WILLIAM ROBINSON,

Governor,

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 190.

JAMAICA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895-6.

(For Report for 1894-5, see No. 161 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1897.



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1897.

[C.—8279.-14.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Col	lony.				Year.
156	Mauritius				-	1894
157	Labuan	, -	20		-	,,
158	Gold Coast -				- 1	"
159	British Guiana -	-		•	-	1894-5
160	Sierra Leone -	-		-	-	1894
161	Jamaica			-	•	1894-5
162	British Honduras -	-				1894
163	British Bechuanaland	-			-	1894-5
164	Newfoundland -			•	-	1894
165	Gambia -			-	-	"
166	Bermuda		•	E	-	" "
167	Leeward Islands -	-	TOT TO	-	-	"
168	British New Guinea		•			1894-5
169	Zululand	•	-	-1	-	1895
170	Sierra Leone -	-		-	-	"
171	Gibraltar	•	- 7		•	"
172	Malta			* 7 k	Car-1	,,
173	Barbados	-	-/-		-	"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	-	•	-	-	,,
175	Falkland Islands -		-		-	"
176	St. Helena	•	-	•	-	"
177	Bahamas		-	-	-	,,
178	Hong Kong -	-	- 1			"
179	Windward Islands -	-	•		-	"
180	Labuan	-	•	-		>>
181	Trinidad and Tobago	-		· 100	-	,,
182	Seychelles		3/3 W		-	1894-5
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues		•		-	1895
184	British Honduras -				-	,,,
185	Lagos				-	"
186	Basutoland -	1.	• 1		-	1895-6
187	Ceylon	-			-	1895
188	British Guiana -	-	-		-	1895-6
189	Gold Coast -				4 -	1895

MISCELLANEOUS.

io.	Colony			Subject.
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -	-	-	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	-	-	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -			Emigration.
5	Bahamas -	-	-	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	-	-	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	-	-	Mineral Resources.

No. 190.

JAMAICA, 1895-6.

JAMAICA.

(For Report for 1894-5 see No. 161.)

The ACTING GOVERNOR to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

SIR, Trafalgar, November 14, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Governor's Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year which ended on the 31st March last.

I have, &c.
H. JARDINE HALLOWES, Major-General,
Administering the Government.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK, 1895-6.

Legislation.

During the session of 1896 the Legislative Council passed 39 laws, of which the following are the more important:—

Law 4 of 1896, making members of parochial boards personally liable for unauthorised or illegal expenditure by drafts signed by them.

Law 5 of 1896—"The Trial of Lunatics Law, 1896," which is practically a copy of the Imperial Statute (46 & 47 Vict. cap. 38). The necessity for this Law was shown by the miscarriage which occurred last year, when a person charged with sedition was acquitted on the ground of insanity.

Law 8 of 1896—"The Juvenile Offenders Law, 1896," which empowers a judge to order the whipping of a boy between the age of 10 and 16 years, on conviction of certain offences, instead of sending him to prison or to a reformatory.

Law 9 of 1896—"The Prevention of Cruelty to Children Law, 1896." This law is in substance a transcript of the Imperial Statute (57 & 58 Vict. cap. 41). It provides for the punishment by fine or imprisonment of any person convicted of cruelty to a child, and for the care and maintenance of children coming under the protection of the law.

o 95140 Wt. 20348.

Law 12 of 1896—"The Jury Law Amendment Law, 1896." This Law consolidates the Laws relating to juries, provides more effectively for the preparation and settlement of jury lists, the striking of panels of jurors, and regulates the service of jurors.

Law 13 of 1896—" Quit Rents Forfeiture Law, 1896." This Law consolidates Laws 14 of 1884 and 32 of 1888, and facilitates

and simplifies the proceedings for forfeiture of land.

Law 15 of 1896—"The Leper Asylum Law, 1896." This Law repeals the former Leper Asylum Law, and makes fresh provision for the constitution of leper asylums and for the admission to, discharge from, and management of, such institutions. It also prohibits the employment of lepers in the preparation or sale of any articles of food or drink, and in certain trades, when their disease might be a source of danger to other members of the community.

Law, 1896." This Law is in aid of the existing Lunatic Ayslum Laws, and provides more fully than heretofore for dealing with persons of unsound mind. It also empowers the Governor to declare the new asylum premises to be a lunatic asylum within

the meaning of the Law.

Law 17 of 1896—"The Marine Board Law, 1896." This Law abolishes the Pilotage and Harbour Boards and districts established under authority of Laws 36 of 1873 and 21 of 1891, and provides for the appointment of a Marine Board in their stead for the whole island, with extended powers, including the management and control, &c., of all lights and beacons, other than lighthouses, inquiries as to shipwrecks, casualties affecting ships, and charges of incompetency or misconduct on the part of masters, mates or engineers, inquiries as to the seaworthiness of ships, providing for examination of masters, mates, or engineers of coasting ships.

Law 19 of 1896—"The Brewers License Law, 1896," which imposes a small duty on beer brewed in the Island for sale, and

regulates the brewing thereof.

Law 21 of 1896—"The Medical Laws, 1872-1885, Amendment Law, 1896." This Law makes more complete provision for the examination in the Colony of persons who desire to be registered as medical practitioners and who possess a medical qualification in a country whose diploma or license does not entitle a person to be registered as a medical practitioner here,

and provides for the fees to be paid.

Law 22 of 1896—"The Indian Immigrants Marriage, Divorce, and Succession Law." Several murders have been committed during the last few years among the East Indian immigrants, the motive being apparently jealousy. It is hoped that the provisions of this law, which make better provision for the marriage or for the separation of coolies already married, if proper cause is shown, may tend to prevent this crime among these people.

Law 23 of 1896-"A Law to amend the Laws relating to the Bath of St. Thomas the Apostle." It was found that the affairs of this Bath were much neglected in consequence of the failure of the directors to meet regularly. This Law creates a new board of directors and gives them increased powers.

Law 24 of 1896-"The Trustee Law, 1896," which is based on the English Trustee Acts of 1893 and 1894, which regulate the investments to be made by trustees and other matters

connected therewith.

Law 25 of 1896-"The Newspaper Libel Law, 1896," which is taken from the Imperial Statutes dealing with the subject of actions brought against proprietors or editors of newspapers.

Law 27 of 1896--" The Stamp Duty Law, 1868, Amendment Law, 1896," which reduces the duty on conveyances, agreements,

mortgages, &c.

Law 28 of 1896-"The Spirit License Law, 1896." The question of improving the system under which these licenses are issued has been for some time before the Government and the Legislative Council. Under the present law, considerable safeguards have been introduced for the issue of licenses only to proper persons, and on suitable and convenient premises after inquiry.

Law 30 of 1896--" The Jamaica Street Car Company's Laws, 1875-84, Amendment Law, 1896." The Street Car Company obtained its first order under Law 23 of 1875, and the period of twenty years provided by that Law expired in respect of that order in April last. But for the passing of this Law there would, therefore, have been no legal powers for trams to be run in Kingston after the 21st Λ pril. This Law enables the Governor in Privy Council to extend the time provided for in the Law of 1875 for periods not exceeding three months at a time.

Law 31 of 1896-"The Public Buildings Law, 1896." This Law authorises the construction of a block of central public buildings in Kingston, and provides for a loan of 100,000l. being

raised for the purpose.

Law 33 of 1896, This Law authorises the appointment of a Supernumerary Resident Magistrate, who will be able to act in any parish of the Island where his services may be required, and who it is intended should also act as a Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court when necessary.

Law 34 of 1896-"The Customs Tariff Amendment Law, 1896," imposes a duty of 1d. on imported sugar. It also provides for payment of a drawback in the case of sugar used in preserving

fruit, &c., for export.

Law 36 of 1896-"The Solicitors Law, 1896." This Law provides for the creation of a committee, consisting of the Attorney General, the Crown Solicitor, and five practising Solicitors, to be appointed by the judges of the Supreme Court. The committee will have charge of the examination of articled

JAMAICA. 1895-6.

clerks. It provides also for dealing with cases of complaint

against a solicitor for professional misconduct.

Law 37 of 1896—"The Produce Protection Law, 1896." This Law is intended to check the larceny of such produce, and the facility with which such produce, when stolen, is at present disposed of. It restricts the sale of produce to certain hours of the day, and requires every person carrying on the business of buying and selling, or of buying and exporting, agricultural produce to take out a license. It also provides that certain produce when in transit shall be accompanied by a form of particulars, as well as of the owner and the property from which sent, &c.

* Law 38 of 1896—"The Prædial Larceny Law, 1896." This Law, which is intended to be worked with the Produce Protection Law just before referred to, gives power to any one to detain any person found in possession of any article of agricultural produce under suspicious circumstances, and enables a judge to inflict the

punishment of flogging on habitual stealers of produce.

Law 39 of 1896—"The Jamaica Bar Regulation Law, 1896." The distinction between the two branches in the legal profession is maintained in this island. This Law enables solicitors of ten years' standing to be struck off the roll of solicitors and to become members of the Jamaica Bar, and thus secure a right of audience in the Supreme Court. It also provides that any member of the Jamaica Bar may become a solicitor instead of a barrister after he has been three years at the local bar.

Finance.

The surplus General Revenue brought forward at the commencement of the year was 64,005l., and the revenue collected during the year amounted to 646,103l., making together a sum of 710,108l., while the expenditure (including 21,429l. for sinking funds) amounted to 626,934l., thus leaving at the close of the year a surplus of 83,173l. Compared with the previous year, general revenue and expenditure show a net increase of 22,078l. and 24,703l. respectively.

Parochial revenues, which are devoted to parochial roads, poor relief, sanitary and other local services, and are administered by the several parochial boards, produced 129,602*l*., an increase of 2,051*l*., while expenditure amounted to 133,476*l*., a decrease of

12,716l. on the previous year.

The revenue specially appropriated to main roads under Law 17 of 1890 amounted to 32,189l., showing no appreciable change, while the expenditure was 31,201l., or 1,640l. more than in 1894-95.

Immigration revenue was 10,793*l*, and expenditure 13,048*l*. The whole revenue realised in the year under report compared with that in the previous year is as follows:—

^{*} This Law has been disallowed.

Committee of the party of the party	1895-6.	1894–5.	Increase.	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
Import duties	355,246	341,360	13,886	Borto 📥 🕟
Light dues	2,824	2,330	494	-
Harbour master's fees	2,816	2,839		23
Rum duties	138,725	138,923.	-	198
Licenses	759	776	-	17
Stamps	23,137	20,133	3,004	_
Tax on stock	10.414	10.000	154	4
	12,414	12,260		,-
Tax revenue	535,921	518,625	17,538	242
Net increase	-	-	17,296	-
Postal revenue	23,594	21,886	1,708	No.
Telegraph revenue	5,858	5,783	75	
Court fees	9,149	9,048	101	
Fines and forfeitures	4,652	4,432	220	_
Interest on securities for sinking funds.	13,428	12,442	986	
Interest on Savings Bank invest- ments after paying depositors.	4,103	3,995	108	-
Interest other than as above Interest, Jamaica railway bonds	6,231	6,189	42	-
Reimbursements	33,594	32,442	1,152	
Miscellaneous	9,573	9,183	390	
Non-tax revenue	110,182	105,400	4,782	hote long
Total	646,103	624,025	22,078	
promote to proper will be		(hachana)	Maniety in	ilvisii +i-
Revenue specially appropriated. Main Road Revenue.				
Land tax, Law 17 of 1890 -	397	388	9	-
Draft Horned Stock Law	875	958	951	83
Holdings tax	14,372 16,545	14,021 16,867	351	-
Spirit licenses				322
	32,189	32,234	360	405
Net decrease	_	-		45
Reimbursements of loan expenditure.	6,447	19,256	-	12,809
Parochial Revenue.				
Parochial road tax	48,398	47,111	1 997	
Kingston streets tax	3,727	3,415	1,287	
Parochial municipal revenues	13,804	13,181	623	No. of Street, or other Party of Street, or
Parochial general purposes -	4,179	3,318	861	100
Poor rates	42,600	42,923	_	323
Sanitary rates	9,039	8,327	712	
Fire rates	1,631	956	675	والمساوة
Gas rates	2,099	3,446	- 80	1,347
Miscellaneous	4,125	4,874		749
	129,602	127,551	4,470	2,419
Net increase	70 N	-	2,051	

	1895-6.	1894-5.	Increase.	Decrease
Immigration Revenues.	£	£	£	£
Law 7 of 1878.—Amendment Law 14 of 1891.	10,538	1,930	8,608	_
Miscellaneous	166	75	91	
Interest	89	134	-	45
	10,793	2,139	8,699	45
Net increase			8,654	
Summary.	4,			
General revenue	646,103	624,025	22,078	_
Specially appropriated revenue -	32,189	32,234	-	45
Reimbursements of loans expendi-	6,447	19,256	- Table	12,809
Appropriated revenues -	129,602	127,551	2,051	_
Immigration revenue	10,793	2,139	8,654	
	825,134	805,205	32,783	12,854
Total net increase -		•-	19,929	Sa Breit

The net increase in general revenue of 22,078*l*. is due to increases in the receipts for imports (13,886*l*.), chiefly in respect of food stuffs; for stamps (3,004*l*.), certain arrears and fines on account of legacy duties having been paid during the year; for postal and telegraphs (1,783*l*.), due to the extension of business; and for reimbursements generally (1,152*l*.). The items of decrease are few and small and do not call for any remarks.

The revenue devoted to main roads under Law 17 of 1890 shows

but slight variation.

The parochial revenues show a net increase of 2,051l. The

amounts vary with the rates imposed.

Immigration revenues gave an increase of 8,654l., due to payments on the arrival of coolies by the "Volga" and "Jumna."

The following is a comparative statement of the disburse-

ments:-

				1
	1895-6.	1894-5.	Increase.	Decrease.
		1 - 600 -		
	£	£	£	£
Charges of debt	81,111	80,946	165	-
Pensions	16,096	16,259	-	163
Administrative departments -	45,704	43,706	1,998	-
Government Savings Bank -	3,087	2,904	183	
Revenue departments	40,018	38,025	1,993	
Postal service	25,887	25,060	827	_
Telegraph service -	7,589	7,073	516	_
Judicial -	44,122	43,000	1,122	-
Ecclesiastical -	3,356	3,885	_	529
Medical	58,842	57,822	1,020	_
Constabulary	55,468	53,140	2,328	
Grant to Constabulary Pension Fund.	3,682	-	3,682	-

		1895-6.	1894-5.	Increase.	Decrease
		£	£	£	£
Prisons		21,286	20,045	1,241	
Reformatories -	-	4,179	4,618	-	439
Education -	-	65,270	67,546	-16	2,276
Industrial schools -	-	965	969	-	4
Harbours and pilotage	-	3,251	1,860	1,391	-
Military		11,053	11,652	_	599
Coasting service -		1,800	1,800	-	
Felegraph subsidy - Registrar-General's Depart		2,000	2,000	000	
Registrar of Titles' Depart	ment -	4,470 1,102	4,175 855	232 247	
Island Record Office	ment -	1,346	1,482	241	136
Government Printing Office	-	7,818	7,569	249	100
Jamaica Institute -		1,915	2,102	210	187
Board of Supervision		508	432	76	
Public gardens -		5,654	5,061	593	1
Railway		1,996	1,917	79	10001
Miscellaneous		10,715	9,253	1,462	24 mg 12
Public works -	-	65,831	63,316	2,515	()
2		6,624		6,624	
Lighthouses -		1,722	991	731	_
Lighthouse construction -		1,102	1,340		238
		605,506	580,803	29,274	4,571
Net increase	-			24,703	
Law 17 of 1890. Maintenance - Tanks -		30,709 492	29,557 4	1,152 488	=
		31,201	29,561	1,640	
Appropriated Expendi	ture.				
Parochial roads		54,170	44,499	9,671	
Kingston streets		1,966	2,022	_	56
Parochial municipal object	s -	9,475	11,381		1,906
Parochial general purposes		7,072	7,500	_	428
Relief of the poor -		45,754	45,886	_	132
Sanitary appropriation -		9,683	8,004	1,679	
Fire appropriation, Kingsto	n -	1,467	1,503	10 to	36
Gas appropriation, Kingston	on -	3,136	3,097	39	
Kingston Streets Fund -	-		22,300		22,300
Kingston theatre -		753		753	
		133,476	146,192	12,142	24,858
Net decrease		_			12,716
mmigration expenditure -		13,048	11,135	1,913	
Expended from Loan	s.				
Contribution to Kingston Law 28 of 1894.	streets,	25,000		25,000	-
Portland bridges		8,239	3,324	4,915	
Telegraph construction Main road reconstruction	T	9,946	16,678		6,732

	1895–6.	1894-5.	Increase.	Decrease
Expended from Loans—cont.	£	£	£	£
Public buildings, Laws 6 of 189	***	8,785	-	2,177
and 40 of 1894. Expenses in conversion of deben- tures.	372		372	
Mountain roads, Law 13 of 1895	1,294	10 -	1,294	_
	66,301	54,312	31,581	19,592
Net increase			11,989	
Summary.				
General expenditure	605,506	580,803 29,561	24,703 1,640	=
Appropriated expenditure -	133,476	146,192	-	12,716
Immigration expenditure - Expenditure from loan -	13,048 66,301	11,135 54,312	1,91 3 11,989	=
	849,532	822,003	40,245	12,716
General net increase			27,529	

The net increase in general expenditure of 24,703l. is mainly due to increases in Legislative Council and Public Works under "Administrative" (1,998l.); in the Revenue Department, owing to its recent re-arrangement (1,993l.); in inquests, Crown witnesses, and other judicial services (1,122l.); in constabulary, due to an increase of the force and the paying of gratuities formerly met exclusively from the Constabulary Pension Fund. There are also increases in medical (1,020l.); and harbours and pilotage (1,391l.), for new works, buoys and beacons, &c.; miscellaneous—chiefly for the Jamaica Agricultural Society—1,462l.; public works, increase of new works on main roads (2,515l.); railway, for extension track (the expenditure having previously been met from deposits) (6,624l.).

The most important decrease is that of 2,276l under education, owing to decrease in the grants earned, consequent on the falling off in the attendance of pupils. The other items of decrease are

few and do not call for special comment.

Main road expenditure under Law 17 of 1890 shows an increase

of 1,640l.

Parochial expenditure proper (exclusive of Kingston Streets Fund) shows a net increase of 9,584l. The funds which show increased expenditure are parochial roads and sanitary, while the only important decrease is in expenditure from the surplus fund.

Immigration expenditure shows an increase of 1,913l.

Pensions

During the year pensions amounting to 1,691l. 2s. 6d. were granted under the provisions of Law 34 of 1885 and the

resolution of the Legislative Council dated 23rd October 1887, while the pension list was relieved by the death of pensioners to the extent of 5111 3s. 4d.

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Debt.

The sum of 25,000l. was raised by loan under Law 28 of 1894, for the purpose of defraying the expense of certain works connected with the Kingston Improvements Scheme specified in section 37 of Law 31 of 1890, this arrangement having been substituted for the original one in the latter Law of paying the amount direct from the public Treasury.

8,400l. of the amount was raised in debentures at 4 per cent. and 16,6001 in 4 per cent. local inscribed stock. The premiums offered in respect of the former were at the rate of 2 per cent. and of the latter at rates varying from 6 per cent. to 10 per cent.

The public debt directly secured on the general revenue stood as follows at the close of each of the last 10 years, after making allowance in each year for the sinking funds actually invested for the eventual redemption of debt:-

					£	s.	d.	
1886	-		-		1,478,790	3	8	
1887			-	-	1,491,993	3	9	
1888	-				1,502,684		8	
1889					1,506,883		0	
1891	-	-			1,458,221		7	
1892	_		-		1,520,088		3	
1893	-				1,523,944		11	
1894	-			4 6.	1,672,299		6	
1895				-	1,678,744		2	
1896		-	-		1,666,177		3	

Of the above amount on the 31st March last 763,1191. 15s. 1d. was on account of the purchase, reconstruction, and extension of the railway to Ewarton and Porus; 126,500% on account of the Rio Cobre Canal; 167,2201. for the erection of new bridges and 146,000l. for reconstruction and conversion of parochial roads into main road.

The following are the amounts due for debentures guaranteed by general revenue raised on account of the several undertakings specified:

				£
Kingston and Liguanea W	aterw	orks	-	78,020
Kingston gasworks -	- 3			14,900
Kingston slaughter-house	-		-	10,000
Kingston improvement	-0-		-	50,000

Legislative Council.

The Council as reconstituted by the Queen's Order in Council of 3rd October 1895, under which each parish of the island is separately represented by an elected member, the nominated Jamaica. 1895-6. and official members being at the same time increased to a maximum of 10, opened on the 25th February and adjourned sine die on the 2nd April 1896.

During that period 27 meetings were held. Dr. C. B. Mosse, Dr. J. Pringle, Lieut. Col. C. J. Ward, Mr. P. C. Cork, and Mr. W. Fawcett were sworn in for the first time as nominated members of the new Council.

Public Works.

The total expenditure by the Public Works Department of all kinds, including the cost of administration and supervision, was 151,824*l.* 3s., of which 65,400*l.* was expenditure from funds provided by loans for special purposes. The cost of administration and supervision was equal to about 14 per cent. of the cost of work executed.

The main roads, the bridges, and the public buildings throughout the island were maintained in good order, and many improvements effected. The number of separate institutions or buildings, for the upkeep of which the Public Works Department is responsible, was 276, and the cost amounted to 11,394*l*., including maintenance of telegraph lines. The new works on public buildings executed by the Department during the year cost 8,626*l*., and consisted mainly of additional accommodation for police stations, prisons, court houses, parochial hospitals, and public offices.

The principal new road works undertaken at the cost of general revenue were the construction of the road from Grantham to Spaldings in Clarendon; the deviation of the steep portions of the road between Williamsfield and Mandeville in Manchester and of the road at "My Lady Hill" and at Barracks Hill near Port Maria in St. Mary.

The mileage of main roads, of which the upkeep is chargeable to general revenue, was 881 miles, an increase of 12 miles over last year, and the total average cost per mile for maintenance and repair and improvement of main roads and bridges was 36l. 17s. 11d., being 2l. 5s. 11d. less than in the previous year. The total cost for these works was 39,806l.

The work of reconstructing parochial roads taken over under Law 17 of 1890 was continued during the year, and the actual length taken over as main roads up to the close of the year was 989 miles $70\frac{1}{2}$ chains. The average cost of maintaining these roads was 21l. 16s. 6d. per mile.

The maintenance of the greater portion of all the roads is directly undertaken by the Department; but at the end of the year there were 88 miles of main roads and 35 miles of parochial

main roads under maintenance by contract.

The construction of bridges authorised by Law 20 of 1892 was continued, and the expenditure during the year on this work was 14,846l. 1s. 5d. At the close of the year 67 out of the 98 bridges authorised were constructed and 12 were in course of construction.

The construction of the interior main road in St. Thomas, from the Johnson River at Serge Island to Bath was almost completed at the end of the year. The grades of this road are easy and it has been much used ever since the track was cut.

The work of surveying and tracking out the first of the mountain roads in St. Andrew under Law 15 of 1895 was pushed forward. The survey as far as Hardware Hill Gap, 14½ miles, was

completed.

The new lighthouse at Negril Point was completed, and the lighthouses at Plumb Point, Morant Point, and Folly Point were maintained with regularity and efficiency.

The telegraph lines throughout the island were maintained in

fair working order.

Crown Lands.

A scheme for the benefit of small settlers was introduced during the year, under which Crown Lands can be bought in lots of from 5 to 50 acres, purchasers being permitted to pay down one-fifth of the purchase money, and given 10 years to pay up the remaining four-fifths without interest. Efforts have been made to explain the benefits of the scheme to the people, but no sales were effected during the year, though numerous applications were received. Most of the applicants did not fully understand the conditions of the scheme, and others made applications for the purchase of land not yet forfeited to the Crown.

Six notifications were issued with respect to 206 properties comprising 89,084\frac{1}{4} acres liable to forfeiture to the Crown for nonpayment of quit rent and land tax. It is anticipated that these lands will be finally forfeited during 1896-97 and 1897-98.

6,610 acres of land were forfeited during the year.

Law 13 of 1896 passed during the year simplifies the former procedure for the forfeiture of land and contains a provision intended to discourage squatting, by requiring that before the taxes tendered on lands five years in arrears can be received proof of ownership must be given by claimants tendering payment.

Ninety-six lots of land to the north-west of Kingston, in the possession of squatters without any title, were recovered under Law 43 of 1887, but were leased to the squatters in consideration of their having made certain improvements, at small rentals for seven years, at the end of which time the lessees will be given the

preferential right to purchase.

During the year regulations were framed and published setting forth terms on which tracings from the cadastral maps of the parishes might be obtained by the public.

There has been a steady increase in the revenue of the

department since its formation in 1890.

Lands for Railway Track.

5,155½ acres of land were conveyed to the West India Improvement Company under Law 12 of 1889. Up to the 31st March

JAMAICA. 1895-6. Јаматса. 1895-6. 1889, the Company had acquired under the Law 24,488 acres in all, situated mostly in the eastern extremity of the island. The land is generally well watered, virgin and fertile, but steep. On the completion of the railway the Company will be entitled to a further area of 52,312 acres.

All the important cases in connexion with the acquisition of land for the railway track have now been settled. The expenditure in acquiring these lands during the year was 15,312*l.*, and the total expenditure for the purpose from 1890 to the 31st March 1896 was 60,157*l.*

Rio Cobre Canal.

The revenue earned during the year was 3,700l., and the cost of management, including salaries, was 1,652l., leaving a balance of 2,048l.

The sale of water was increased by 15 per cent. during the year. The quantity supplied at the end of the year was 6,200 cubic yards per hour, and the Director of Public Works anticipates that 1,400 cubic yards per hour in addition will be taken during the year 1896-97.

At the end of the year 1895-96 about 1,200 acres of bananas were under irrigation, as compared with nearly 800 acres at the end of 1894-95. The Director of Public Works considers it probable that 500 or 600 acres more in bananas will be under irrigation within the ensuing 12 months.

Most of the new supplies of water during the year were given free for one year, and will not, therefore, show an increase of revenue till next year.

Post Office.

The total receipts under this head in 1895–96 amounted to 29,726l. 6s. $3\frac{1}{2}d$., as compared with 27,962l. 13s. $11\frac{1}{2}d$ in 1894–95, showing an increase of 1,763l. 12s. 4d.

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure for 1895-26, compared with the two preceding years:—

DIN	7 83 7	TTT	TA
REV	V PUL	VU	Ľ

						Postal Revenue.					
	Ye	ar.		Postages.	Commission on Money Orders.	Commission on Postal Orders.	Miscella- neous.	Total Postal Revenue.	Telegraph Revenue.	Grand Total.	
1893-4 -			-	£ s. d. 19,429 3 1	£ s. d. 354 6 6	£ s. d. 431 14 4\frac{1}{3}	£ s. d. 219 1 0	£ s. d. 20,484 4 11½	£ s. d. 6,253 6 0	£ s. d. 26,687 10 11½	
1894-5 - 1895-6 -				20,974 2 9 2,488 17 7	400 10 5 388 6 7	450 7 6½ 519 12 1½	228 16 9 173 0 6	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	5,908 16 6 6,156 9 6	27,962 13 11½ 29,726 6 3½	

EXPENDITURE.

				Postal Expenditure.											
Year.			Salaries.			Mail Conveyance.			Total Postal	Telegraph. Expenditure.	Grand Total.				
			111	Head	Offi	ce.	District Office	es.	Inland.	Ocean.	Services.	Expenditure.			
1893-4 -			-	£ 4,446		<i>d</i> . 0	£ s. d. 2,301 4 6		£ s. d. 8,354 1 3	£ s. d. 1,869 12 11	£ s. d. 3,533 0 9	£ s. d. 20,504 4 5	£ s. d. 6,904 15 9	£ s. d. 27,409 0 2	
1894-5 -			-	4,715	6	8	2,422 6 6		8,419 6 9	2,028 10 8	4,612 12 6	22,198 3 13	7,075 12 0	29,273 15 13	
1895-6 -			-	4,923	16	4	2,535 9 0		9,020 2 2	1,962 1 1	4,471 15 51	22,913 4 01	7,618 16 8	30,532 0 81	

From the above it will be seen that the collections under the head of "Postages" are 1,515l. 19s. 4d. in excess of those for 1894-95, and under the head of "Telegraphs" an excess of 247l. 13s. is shown.

This increase in the collections is chiefly attributable to the increased postal facilities consequent on the cheapening of postage some years ago, the extensions of the railway and to the opening of several new district post offices.

Money Orders.

The following figures show how the transactions for 1895-96 compare with those of the preceding year:—

Jamaica Issue.

			No.	Amount.		
				£ s. d		
1894-95		-	12,472	£ s. d 45,489 17		
1895-96	-	-	13,116	47,242 13		

Issue of other Countries payable in Jamaica.

		No.	Amount.	
1894-95		1,822	£ s. d. 4,955 12 10	
1895-96		2,194	5,441 1 1	

Postal Orders.

The value of Inland Postal Orders sold to the public during the year amounted to 26,383l. 3s., showing an increase of 4,285l. 19s. over the sales for 1894-95.

Postal Expenditure.

The expenditure of the Postal Department amounted in 1895-96 to 22,913l. 4s. $0\frac{1}{2}d$., an increase of 715l. 0s. $10\frac{3}{4}d$. on that of 1894-95.

This increase is chiefly due to the annual increments to the salaries of the staff at the Head Office, the establishment of new district post offices, and to the increased payments to the Jamaica Railway Company for the extension of the daily mail service by train.

New Post Offices.

Seven new post offices have been opened during the year under review, bringing the total number of district post offices up to 130.

Mail Coach Service:

JAMAICA. 1895-6.

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The earnings under this head (2,291l. 17s. 9d.) show a decrease of 3241. 9s. 3d. on the receipts for 1894-95. decrease is largely due to the extension of the railway to Montego Bay.

Ocean Mail Service.

The ocean mail services have been performed in an efficient manner throughout the year.

Telegraphs.

The revenue under this head shows an increase of 247l. 13s on that of the preceding year.

The number of messages sent and received was 110,715 as

compared with 105,719 in 1894-95.

The expenditure for "working expenses" is in excess of the receipts by the sum of 1,462l. 7s. 2d., and also exceeds the expenditure for the previous year by the sum of 543l. 4s. 8d.

This increase is largely due to expense consequent on the opening of telegraph stations after hours, and to the employment of assistant operators at several of the principal stations.

Railway.

The gross receipts of the Jamaica Railway Company for the year ended 31st March 1896 amounted to 93,902l. 6s. 11d., and the expenditure to 64,533l. 16s. 9d., leaving a net revenue of 29,368l, 10s. 2d.

The receipts were made up as follows:-

					£	S.	d.
Goods and ca	attle	-	-	-	52,278	19	2
Passengers		-	-	-	34,569	6	9
Wharf	-	**	-	-	6,196	0	8
Miscellaneou	IS	117 - W	-	-	858	0	4

The number of train miles run amounted to 303,059, which gave an expenditure per mile of 4s. 3.10d. and receipts equal to 6s. 2.36d. per mile, leaving a net revenue of 1s. 11.26d. per train mile.

The number of passengers carried amounted to 366,936.

Interest was paid out of revenue on first mortgage bonds to the extent of 27,990l. 6s. 8d.

Agriculture.

The Colony seems now to be thoroughly roused to the importance of giving more attention to the intelligent cultivation of products. There is a growing desire not only to cultivate but to cultivate well and to improve the quality as well as increase the quantity of the several crops.

o 95140.

The establishment of the Jamaica Agricultural Society has done much to encourage and foster this tendency, partly by the spreading of knowledge, partly by the importation of seed, and partly, and very practically, by the establishment of model farms, as object lessons of the results which may be obtained by the application of the principles of agriculture.

As the cultivation of the sugar cane—which had been for so long the principal product—decreases, it is most important that the production of other crops should be stimulated. It will be long, doubtless, before the loss of sugar can be compensated for by the gain in other products, but the rate of increase in the output of the latter is greater than the rate of decrease of the former, an encouraging circumstance for which fruit deserves the largest share of credit.

The decrease in the acreage of land under cane cultivation during the past year has been 313 acres as compared with the preceding year, and 477 as compared with the average of the four preceding years. The decline in the cultivation of the cane has been gradual but persistent. Thus 20 years ago the acreage was 48,246, 10 years ago it was 40,515, and now it is 30,971. The decrease in the period mentioned has thus been 35 per cent.

Coffee during the year was under cultivation to the extent of 23,643 acres, being 120 acres more than in the year before. In 1871 it was 17,626 acres, so that the area occupied by it has

increased 34 per cent. in the quarter century.

Similarly large increases have taken place in the areas under cultivation in ginger, tobacco, cocoa, &c., and other minor products during the past 25 years, amounting, the Collector General reports, to 43 per cent., and he adds that if bananas be taken into account the increase has been no less than 61 per cent.—a very remarkable growth. Perhaps a simpler method of showing how steadily other products are compensating for sugar is to refer to the relative proportion which the export of that staple bears to the total exports of the Colony. Thus in 1875–76 the value of the island's exports was 1,440,080l., sugar being 31.6 per cent. of the whole. In 1885–86 the value of the exports was 1,280,118l., sugar being 15.9 of the whole, and in 1895–96 the total value of exports was 1,873,105l., to which sugar contributed only 11 per cent.

One of the principal features of the year in the way of agriculture has been the large increase in the output of oranges. The number shipped was no less than 97,025,398, of the estimated value of 169,794l. This is said to be over 12 millions more than were shipped in the four preceding years put together. Jamaica thus continues to benefit by the blizzard which destroyed the Florida groves in 1894, but growers have much to learn yet in the way of cultivating the fruit, and in placing it in good condition on the market. The area under cultivation in bananas has increased by 319 acres during the year, and that under cocoa and ground provisions by 133 and 631 acres respectively. With regard to the last named, it is still remarkable that notwithstanding

the rapid increase of population the area under cultivation of the principal food of the people has so slightly increased. The cause is probably mainly attributable to the absence of many of the male members of the community from their homes working on the railway extensions. Possibly, too, it may be accounted for to some extent by the people acquiring a taste for imported foodstuffs, of which such large quantities have been imported during recent years.

The year has not been a prosperous one for those whose interests lie in the pastoral industries of the Colony. The disease among cattle, although not so destructive in particular places as it was last year—owing, perhaps, to the means for checking it becoming better understood-has been more widespread; and there is scarcely a parish which has not suffered more or less severely. became increasingly evident during the year that some steps should be taken to endeavour to ascertain the precise nature of the disease and the means of eradicating it or, at least, of mitigating its ravages. Since the year under review closed, the services of an eminent veterinarian have been secured to examine into and advise on the subject, and the result of his inquiries are looked forward to with interest by all who have the welfare of the Colony That the industry specially affected by the disease is one of much importance to the Island may be judged from the fact that the lands devoted to pastoral purposes now extend to an area of considerably over half a million acres.

Education.

It has been customary hitherto in this Report to compare the results of the year under review with that of the preceding year only. As, however, it will be interesting to show as far as possible the effect of the passing of the Education Law of 1892 which abolished school fees, statistics are given in the following table for the last five years:—

Jamaica, 1895-6.

Year.		chools on overnment List.	Schools Inspected.	Scholars on Books.	Scholars in Average Attendance.	Per-centage in Average Attendance of Number on Books.	First Class Schools.	Second Class Schools.	Class	Failure.	Not examined.	Fees.	Grants-in-aid, including Building Grants.
1895-96		932	890	100,352	59,617	59.41	154	355	378	36	9	£ s. d.	£ 47,906
1894-95		962	923	104,149	62,587	60.09	160	345	394	37	26		47,886
1893-94		957	918	97,456	64,695	66.38	169	367	380	28	13	45 15 0	47,848
1892-93		912	867	92,135	52,983	57.50	143	389	379	1	- 44	6,649 0 0	42,682
1891-92	•	877	817	83,731	45,927	54.85	128	329	353	7	51	8,803 0 0	30,736
Increase on 1894-95				m-			-	10	-	-	Ji-	- 4	20
Decrease on " -		30	33	3,797	2,970	*68	6	-	16	1	17	_	
Increase on 1893-94	-		_	2,896	_	_	-	_	_	8	- 1 T		58
Decrease on " -		25	28	- 1	5,078	6.97	15	12	2	-	4	-	-
Increase on 1892-93	-	20	23	8,217	6,631	1.91	11	-	-	35	-	-	2,224
Decrease on " -	-	-	_	- 1	+7-9	-	-	34	1	-	35	-	-
Increase on 1891-92		55	73	16,621	13,690	4.26	26	26	25	29	-	-	17,160
Decrease on " -	-	-,	-	4	_	-	-	1 -	-	_	42	-	-

It will be seen that the number of scholars on the books in 1895-96 has been less by nearly 3,800 than in 1894-5; that the average attendance has been less by 2,070; and that the per-centage of average attendance has faller from 60.09 to 59.41.

These results show that, as was suspected, the rapid rise which took place on the inauguration of the new system in 1892 was not stable and that the eager desire at first displayed by parents to take advantage of free education has not been sustained.

The Superintending Inspector of Schools does not, however, attribute this change altogether to fickleness on the part of the people, and he considers that the reduction of the age limit, and drought and failure of crops in some parts of the island, have done much in the way of decreasing the attendance. While admitting the falling off in the last three years, Mr. Capper points out that the advance in the number of scholars enrolled and the average attendance recorded by this year's figures over those of four years ago show a much greater rate of advance than the previous 10 years, and that the regularity of attendance, which in 1891–92 showed no improvement over 10 years before, now shows an increase in the ratio of $59\frac{1}{2}$ to 55, and he adds that, "so far as we " can judge from this year's figures, the legislation of 1892 has " on the whole considerably accelerated the rate of educational " progress."

The considerable decrease in the number of schools, which averages about $2\frac{1}{2}$ to each parish, is mainly attributable to the falling off in the attendance below the number which would entitle them to Government aid. Some few schools have been

struck off the list on account of inefficiency.

Although the number of first class schools has slightly fallen, it is satisfactory to note an increase in the number of those of the second class.

The annual examination of teachers and Training College students, held in December, 1895, resulted in the passing of five teachers out of 17 candidates, and of 136 students out of 152 who presented themselves, viz.:—

			Presented.	Passed
1st Year -		-	60	53
2nd Year	1		51	47
3rd Year	-		41	36

There are now 339 certificated teachers, while 38 more have passed and will receive certificates after the prescribed period of probation.

The examination of pupil-teachers and volunteers, in connection with the general elementary educational system, was also conducted, with the result that 664 passed, out of 1,525 presented, or 43 per cent., showing a decided improvement on last year, the

candidates being greater by 407, and the per-centage of passes 43

as against 35.

In January, 1896, the new buildings of the Mico Institution were opened and have proved satisfactory. The matter of introducing agricultural and industrial training there is engaging the attention of the Board of Directors. At the same time the old Mico buildings were taken over by the Government, where the previously existing boys' school is continued, but which will shortly be converted into a model school for hand and eye training. With this object the Board of Education is now taking steps to secure a manual teacher from England and a kindergarten mistress for the infant school.

Training College for Girls at Shortwood.

The report on this institution is satisfactory. There were 22 students on the 1st of April; the number was increased to 30 in October, 1895. Twenty-two were presented for the certificate examination in December; of these, one passed in the first class, ten in the second, nine in the third, and two failed. Altogether nine students passed out in December, and all found employment at once.

Industrial Schools.

Shortwood Industrial School.

This is a girls' school, at which there were 35 inmates at the commencement and 36 at the end of the year, one of whom was on license.

Of these, 24 were under 12 years of age. The employment includes making, mending, and washing of clothes, baking, light field labour, and house work.

Hope Industrial School.

There were 27 boys in the institution both at the commencement and end of the year. Their chief occupation is working in the Botanical Garden at Hope, where they receive practical lectures daily. The elementary school at which the boys are educated was rated second class at its examination. The examination included questions in agriculture and horticulture at the Gardens, including vine culture, budding, watering, pruning of cocoa, and those properties of shape, symmetry, &c., upon which much of the value of a tree depends. The Inspector expressed his gratification at the excellent results of the training received.

Alpha Cottage.

This institution, which is under the control of the Roman Catholic Church, is maintained for both boys and girls. At the commencement of the year there were 45 of the former and 43 of the latter, and at the end 49 and 44 respectively.

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The employment is chiefly in garden and field labour on the boys' side, and in laundry and domestic work on the girls'.

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At the examination both the boys' and girls' schools passed first class, with 64 and 68 marks each respectively.

Belmont Orphanage.

There were 12 children in this Home, which is under the direction of the Bishop of Jamaica and members of his family. Their education is provided for at a neighbouring school-St. Jude's day school. The employment of the children includes straw plaiting and needlework. The former is stated to have been in great demand, as many orders for hats and baskets having been received as could be supplied.

Botanical.

The increased interest which is being taken in agriculture and the growing desire to improve the quality of the island's products have naturally had their effect on the Botanical Department, increasing the demand for instruction and for plants. During the year an orange experimental garden has been started near the Hill Gardens at an elevation of about 3,700 feet, with the view of testing the result of proper cultivation of an orange grove in suitable soil and climate and of supplying the demand for plants. Other citrus fruits have also been planted out here. A large number of budded and grafted trees have been imported from Florida, and from Rivers, in England, who supplied growers in Florida and California when the cultivation of this fruit was beginning.

The distribution of economic plants has been continued with success throughout the year, the number reaching 31,605 to which Liberian coffee contributed over 17,000, and oranges 6,400. Of ornamental plants 6,955 have been sold, while the free grants of plants have amounted to 4,820. The total has thus been 43,380.

The services of the superintendent of the Hope Gardens for lectures on cultivation, with practical illustrations in the country districts, are more and more in demand. I wish it were possible to arrange for more of these demonstrations. They are much appreciated by the small settlers, and I am convinced will prove of value in adding to the income of the island much of the large sums that are annually lost by reason of the unintelligent methods of cultivation adopted and the imperfect curing of crops.

The several gardens and plantations have been maintained in a state of efficiency during the year. They are all situated in picturesque positions, and are a source of attraction both to residents in the Island and to visitors.

The Hill Garden, 5,000 feet above the sea, is at present difficult to reach, but the new system of mountain roads will make it more accessible.

Good work is being done at the Hope Garden in training boys as gardeners and agriculturists. These lads have been committed to the Industrial School established there, and which is under the control of the Director of Public Gardens. It is hoped that when they leave the school they will be able to obtain situations as gardeners, and may also be able to impart to others of their own class the instruction they have received.

Immigration.

Two ships arrived during the year, bringing together 1,167 immigrants. Of this number 30 had previously served in this or other Colonies, and had returned to India. All but nine of the adults, one of whom died after arrival, were found fit for allotment

as agricultural labourers.

348 souls, equal to 3161 statute adults, left for Calcutta in the "Moy" on the 18th May 1895. 99 adults who had claimed and were entitled to free passages did not present themselves, and the ships had to be despatched short of the full complement. amount of 3,139l. 19s. 9d. was taken away in Treasury Bills by A further instance of the prosperity and thrift of the 89 families. East Indian population is shown in the increase of Savings Bank depositors compared with 1894 of from 793 to 1,029 and of deposits from 13,958l. 10s. 10d. to 22,680l. 1s. 11d., notwithstanding the closing of several accounts by coolies.

Remittances to India were 59 for a total of 1851. 10s. 10d. 194 letters by immigrants were despatched to India through the

Immigration Office, and 146 received from India.

The births numbered 112, the deaths 77, being per-centages of 3.40 and 2.34 respectively, the rates for the previous year having been 2.67 and 1.83. Four deaths were due to murder, two to

executions, one to an accidental burn, and two to suicide.

Of the four cases of murder, one, that of a coolie headman, had not been tried when the year closed. The other three were wife murders, two on account of jealousy, the other owing to the wife having told her mother the husband had stolen money belonging

Of the two suicides, the motive of one was not ascertained, the

other was due to jealousy of a concubine.

'So many cases of homicide, four being directly traced to jealousy, had never occurred in the Protector's experience in any one year. As a preventive measure, a circular was issued to employers asking them to telegraph all cases of jealousy among their immigrants, so as to enable steps to be taken in time to prevent murders, and six coolies have been permanently removed to other estates and one temporarily. It is hoped that the recent Law 22 of 1896, to regulate immigrants' marriage, divorce, and succession, will also act beneficially in this direction.

At the close of the year 30 East Indians, equal to 1.81 per 1,000, were undergoing imprisonment, almost all for crimes of violence, one was in the Lepers' Home and 52 were in the Lunatic Asylum.

In other respects the condition of the East Indian population has been satisfactory, and the depression in the sugar industry has had little if any effect on their average wages, the greater number being now employed on fruit-growing properties.

It is interesting to note that a high caste East Indian, formerly an immigrant, is now the possessor of over 2,600 acres of land and has been elected a member of the Parochial Board of Trelawny.

Emigration.

During the year 743 labourers left Jamaica for the Isthmus of Panama and for Carthagena, and 714 returned therefrom.

Government Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and the amount of deposits in the bank have been as follows in the last 10 years:—

Y	ear.		Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.
			E INFRART C	£
1885–86		-	16,320	363,292
1886-87	-	-	17,047	363,481
1887-88	-	-	18,510	393,250
1888-89	-	-	19,444	408,213
1890-91	-	-	21,747	423,011
1891-92	-	-	22,824	428,348
1892-93		-	23,902	417,978
1893–94	-	-	25,533	457,924
1894-95		-	27,045	453,875
1895-96		-	28,385	464,737

The year under review shows an increase of 1,340 in the number of depositors and an increase of 10,862*l*. in the amount of deposits as compared with 1894–5.

In the above amount of deposits are included 14 deposit accounts for the following public funds:—

		£	S.	d.
1 Constabulary Reward Fund -	-	76	5	10
1 Constabulary Pension Fund -	-	2	14	10
10 Sinking Funds	-	1,829	15	10
1 Smith and Beckford's Charity	-	110	9	11
1 Turks Island		643	0	7

There were also 327 accounts for trusts, charities, Chancery Administrator-General and bankrupt estates, amounting to a total deposit of 33,739l. 8s. 9d.; the remaining 28,044 accounts representing 426,740l. 19s. 9d. are all ordinary savings bank deposits; old savings bank balances, 1,585l. 4s. 2d.; surplus fund, 9l. 16s., making a total of 464,737l. 5s. 8d.

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Of the total number of accounts open at the end of the year, 19,929 were for 5l. and under, while only 1,343 were for over 100l., the increase in the number of small accounts of 5l. and under being 1,217.

The assets of the bank on the 31st March last were distributed

as follows:-

as follows:—				man allows the state of
				\mathfrak{E} s. d.
Consols, $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.	-		-	20,404 17 3
Inscribed Stock:—	£	s.	d.	
Canada, 3 per cent.	27,908	0	8	
Cape of Good Hope, 4				
per cent	47,766	6	8	
Ceylon, 4 per cent.	24,881	5	2	
New South Wales, 31 per				
cent	40,528	13	7	1
Victoria, 4 per cent				
	9,900			
	9,974		0	
2 1				193,002 1 1
Debentures:—				
Canada, 4 per cent.	53,990	12	6	
New South Wales, 5 and	00,000			
4 per cent	60,997	10	0	
South Australia, 4 and	0.7,00	10	0	
6 per cent	52,431	9	6	
Victoria, 4 and $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	47,308			
Jamaica, 5 per cent.	3,800		0	
Jamaica, J per cent.	3,000	U	U	010567 17 0
				218,527 17 6
				191 094 15 10
Carle in Colonial Pauls				431,934 15 10
Cash in Colonial Bank				32,802 9 10
				101707 5 0
				464.737 5 8

The accounts opened numbered 4,027 and those closed 2,709 the result being an increase of 1,340 in the number at the end of the year as compared with the number at the end of the preceding year.

The number of deposits amounted to 34,528 and withdrawals to 34,047, representing 240,542l. 12s. $6\frac{1}{2}d$. and 242,251l. 8s. $4\frac{1}{3}d$.

respectively.

The expenses of management and interest credited to depositors amounted to 15,700l. 7s. 2d., while the revenue realised was 16,716l. 1s. 1d., thus showing a net profit of 1,015l. 13s. 11d. on the year's transactions.

The revenue compared with the preceding year shows an increase

of 44l.

Trade.

If the prosperity of the Colony may be gauged by the increase or otherwise of the value of its business as indicated by its importations, then it may be safely concluded that the prosperity of Jamaica has made considerable strides during the past year.

JAMAICA. 1895-6.

The value of the imports in 1894-5 was 2,191,745l., while in 1895-6 it rose to 2,288,945l. 18s., these figures being higher than in previous years, as will appear from the following table:—

	V	alue of.	Imports.		£
1884-5		-		_	1,487,833
1885-6				-	1,325,603
1886-7	-			-	1,322,336
1887-8	-	-		-	1,695,605
1888–9	-	-	-	-	1,597,600
1890-1	-	- F W	-	-	2,188,937
1891-2	-	-		-	1,759,890
1892–3	- 1	-	-	-	1,941,481
1893-4	-			-	2,157,794
1894–5		. •		-	2,191,745
1895-6		-		-	2,288,946

Of the total of 2,288,946l., the value of imports for home consumption was 2,255,637l., as against 2,190,712l. in 1894-95.

Taking the usual classification of imports under the heads of—

I. Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics;

II. Raw materials;

III. Manufactured articles; and

IV. Coin and bullion,

there appears under Head I. an increase of 51,197l., and under Head III. an increase of 26,928l.; while under Heads II. and IV. there have been decreases as compared with the former year, in the case of the former to the extent of 2,525l., and in the case of the latter to the extent of 10,675l. Food, drink, and tobacco, it may be stated, constituted 39 per cent. of the total entries for consumption; while manufactured articles were 57 per cent., raw material 3 per cent., and coin and bullion less than 1 per cent.

The following statement shows the items of food supply which have principally contributed to the increased importations under this head as compared with 1894-95:—

	ALT:		Increase	in
			Quantity.	Value
				£
Bread and bisco		-	916,054 lbs.	7,557
Butter and its s	ubstitutes		42,693 lbs.	1,810
Chese -		-	30,032 lbs.	1,001
Flour -			20,311 brls.	33,872
Corn -	11.	-	57,989 bush.	(4,171
Corn meal -		-	7,116 brls.	6,101
Peas and beans	-	-	2,661 bush.	998
Bacon -		-	45,666 lbs.	1,903
Hams		-	31,674 lbs.	1,188
Rice		-	1,344,873 lbs.	3,771
Salt			767,595 lbs.	767

The importation of articles of drink has also been considerably above last year, and is shown by the following figures:—

				Increase	in
			karls.	Quantity.	Value.
0 1 1				27 C14 mile	£
Beer and ale	3 -			27,614 galls.	5,523
Brandy	-	-	-	385 "	192
Whiskey	-		-	2,161 "	756
Wine -			-	3,014 "	2,716
Геа -				10,039 lbs.	1,004

The quantity of tobacco imported in the form of cigarettes increased by 24,983 lbs., but the value was less; of manufactured tobacco 1,325 lbs., and of unmanufactured 16,466 lbs. more was

imported than in the year before.

The trade in live animals was not so brisk in the year under review as in 1894-5. Of horned stock only 955 were imported, as against 4,724 in the former year, the values being 5,158l. against 19,105l. Mules, however, increased from 101 to just double that number, sheep, on the other hand, fell from 302 to 27, the latter number being stock intended for breeding purposes.

The only item under Head I. in which there was marked decrease was refined sugar, the importation of which fell by 365,287 lbs. from the importation of 1894-95. This is said to arise from the fact that, anticipating an increase in the duty,

larger quantities than usual were imported in 1894-95.

The decrease in the value of raw materials imported is principally caused by a decreased entry of coke and coals, which were 3,990

tons less than in the preceding year.

Of the various items coming under Head III.—manufactured articles—there are numerous instances of decreased importations as well as of increased entries, but the latter predominate, and the net increase mentioned in the earlier part of this report is the result. The following statement, however, shows the comparison with 1894–95:—

Manufa	acture	d Articl	es.	1895–96.	1894-95.
Textile				£ 511,356	£ 518,415
Metal				198,339	185,897
Other			-	566,909	545,364

The imports for the past three years were drawn from the several countries in the following proportions:—

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			1895-6.	1894–5.	1893-4.
United Kingdom	- 40		48.1	50.4	55.1
Dominion of Canada	10.0	-	7.5	8.5	8.8
United States -	100	-	41.8	36.8	33.3
Other countries -		-	2.6	4.3	2.9

The proportion from the United States continues to grow, and it may to some extent be accounted for, so far as the past five or six years are concerned at least, by the fact that an American firm of contractors engaged on the construction of an expensive line of railway have imported most of their supplies from America; but, even after allowing for that fact, there can be no doubt that the trade with the States is growing rapidly, and that American goods of many descriptions are gradually supplanting the English goods. This is to some extent due to greater enterprise on the part of the American manufacturers, but it is mainly the result of the greater facilities for trade with the United States, which, being so much the nearer market, enables traders here to carry on their business with a smaller capital, owing to cheap freight and frequent communication.

Turning now to the exports of the Colony, it is to be regretted that the value of these has again declined from the figures of former years, the difference as compared with 1894-95 amounting to 48,317*l*.

The following table gives the values of the exports for the past 10 years:—

Yea	r.		Of Produce and Manufactures of the Colony.	Of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
			£	£	£
1885-86 -		-	1,078,315	201,803	1,280,118
1886-87 -		-	1,334,465	174,542	1,509,010
1887-88 -		-	1,661,601	166,989	1,828,590
1888-89 -	1	-	1,501,660	113,164	1,614,824
1890-91 -		-	1,807,084	95,730	1,902,814
1891-92 -		-	1,628,777	93,319	1,722,096
1892-93 -	100	-	1,690,637	69,170	1,759,807
1893-94 -		-	1,982,596	93,093	2,075,689
1894-95 -		-	1,848,877	72,544	1,921,421
1895-96 .		-	1,775,016	98,089	1,873,105

Taking the now recognised official classification into-

I. Live animals, food, drink and narcotics;

II. Raw materials;

III. Manufactured articles; and

IV. Coin and bullion,

it is found that a decrease under Head I. has occurred of 116,552l. The other three heads show an increase, but not sufficient to make up for the deficiency in the first class.

The following are the principal articles of which diminished quantities and values as compared with 1894-95 have been exported:—

		-			Quantity.	Value.
		A na			TANK!	£
Coffee					10,738 cwts.	69,912
Bananas				-	457,965 bunches.	112,326
	1 3 3 3 3		4		7,765 cwts.	43,751
Sugar	i didik		A. A.	-	75,145 gallons.	22,878
Rum Cigars			A Fire	27.2	2,352 lbs.	1,176

The quantity of cocoa exported was 677 cwts. more than the preceding year, but a heavy fall of prices brought the value of the output down by 3,006l.

On the other hand the following articles improved :--

				Quantity.	Value.
1 25,14 514,-08	By Ball	O Byan			£
Duna 202	REG M		-	67,046,503	121,079
ranges -		0.00		12,679 packages.	5,122
Frape fruit			-	2,001 cwts.	5,753
dinger -			7	39,673 gallons.	1,118
Lime juice -	Later V		-	13,392 cwts.	6,091

The value of cocoanuts exported rose by 1,004*l*., although the number exported was 700,048 less. It may be interesting to state as regards oranges that the total export in 1895–96 was 97,025,398, of the estimated value of 169,794*l*., these figures exceeding the sum of the exports in the four preceding years by 12,062,754 in number and 44,319*l*. in value. The island is thus continuing to reap the result of the misfortune which befel Florida in 1894. The exports of raw materials call for little remark. Annotto, hides, lancewood, spars, and logwood, have all improved, while the output of fustic has declined.

Last year I noticed the appearance in the list of exports for the first time of dye extracts. The value of the export in 1894-95 was 3,126l. During the past year it rose to 27,965l., of which the greatest proportion went to the United Kingdom. The countries named below took the island's exports in the proportions set opposite their names during the past three years:—

JAMAICA 1895-6

		1895–6.	1894–5.	1893-4.
United Kingdom	-	27.6	27·1	26.7
United States -	-	57.	58.1	57.3
Dominion of Canada	-	1.6	1.5	1.7
Other countries -	-	13.8	13-3	14.3

and the several staples of export and minor products bore the following proportions to the total exports in each of the years named:—

	YF4		1895–6.	1894–5.	1893–4.
Sugar -	-	-	11.0	12 · 9	14.2
Rum -		1 -	9.3	10.1	7.4
Coffee -	-	-	16.0	19.3	17.3
Dyewoods	-	-	20.4	19.	24.3
Fruit -		-	29.9	27 · 9	26.6
Pimento	-	-	5.1	4.5	3.8
Minor products		-	8.3	6.3	6.4

The following table shows the exports of the principal staples of the Colony during the past 10 years:—

	188586.	1886–87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895–96,
Sugar	Hhds. 16,460	Hhds. 23,043	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds. 20,994	Hhds. 21,210	Hhds. 18,591	Hhds. 24,149	Hhds. 23,452	Hhds. 22,994
Rum	Puns. 14,763	Puns. 24,126	Puns. 18,684	Puns.	Puns. 15,936	Puns. 17,049	Puns. 16,982	Puns. 14,612	Puns. 19,562	Puns. 18,811
Coffee	Lbs. 6,150,960	Lb3.	Lbs.	Lbs. 9,485,160	Lbs. 8,746,960	Lbs. 9,739,712	Lbs.	Lbs. 8,888,844	Lbs. 10,654,460	Lbs. 9,451,870
Pimento	6,919,087	7,335,712	7,454,608	5,172,153	10,120,544	7,137,648	7,711,645	9,828,664	9,303,022	10,902,854
Dyewoods, fustic and logwood	Tons 65,082	Tons. 63,114	Tons.	Tons.	Tons. 110,994	Tons. 87,352	Tons. 99,083	Fons. 99,068	Tons. 78,172	Tons. 85,575
Ginger	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	I bs. 1,002,653	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs. 1,672,410	Lbs.	Lbs,
Arrowroot	1,010	1,693	3,092	836	370	1,200	336	800	Nil.	Nil
Fruit	£ 231,522	£ 215,583	£ 337,403	£ 303,910	£ 531,726	£ 288,159	£ 375,860	£ 527,474	£ 515,412	£ 493,722

Police

JAMAICA. 1895-6.

The allowed strength of the constabulary force at the 31st March 1896 was 777, and this number also represents the actual strength at that date. It is made up of 20 officers, 131 sub-officers, and 626 men.

Besides the regular force there were also 218 rural headmen of police, and 745 rural policemen, the total effective police force of the Colombia and 1740.

of the Colony being thus 1,740 of all ranks.

The rural police are reported to be of much assistance to the regular force in the outlying districts.

Sixty-eight men were enlisted during the year, 40 were

discharged, 16 were dismissed, and 8 died.

The year witnessed the inauguration of the system of strengthening the ranks of the sub-officers by the addition of men from the Royal Irish Constabulary. Three of these European sub-officers were selected for service here and have been stationed at important points. It is hoped that they will not only exercise an improved discipline over the men, but that they may be an example to native sub-officers as to the manner in which their duties as such should be discharged.

I am glad to observe considerable improvement among the police in their musketry practice. Four hundred and seventy-seven trained constables and 99 recruits fired the annual course during the year. The firing of the recruits is reported to have given the best average for the last five years. Forty-two sub-

officers and men qualified for prizes during the year.

The following statement shows a portion of the duties performed by the police during the past five years:—

r 3 - ga _l - ar s-linusia	1891-92.	1892–93.	1893-94.	1894–95.	1895-96.
Number of persons ar- rested on view and on information.	6,558	6,923	8,237	7,781	8,775
Number of persons apprehended on warrants.	1,645	1,802	2 2 a 5		
Number of search war- rants executed.	116	102	122	150	151
Number of persons sum- moned.	17,588	18,896	19,212	19,249	20,279
Number of persons sub- pænaed.	28,267	28,766	29,808	30,673	31,058
Number of seizures under revenue laws.	325	440	399	437	649
Number of post-mortems ordered.	460	432	594	603	610
Number of prisoners escorted.	9,638	10,570	8,599	8,224	9,911

The table shows an increased amount of duty performed, the most remarkable increase being under the head of seizures under the revenue laws. This is the result of special activity on the part of the police in detecting cases of rum-stealing. In order to

protect the revenue, the Law provides for the imposition of a penalty on any person found in illegal possession of rum on which the duty has not been paid. There has been good reason to fear that the offence—stimulated perhaps by an increased duty—has greatly increased, and the police have been warned to use all proper means to detect cases. The increased figures in the foregoing return may be taken as an indication that they are alive to their duties in this respect.

Turning now to offences against the person, with which the police have had to deal during the year, it is satisfactory to note that there were 7,040 arrests only as against 7,302 the year before. Of these 12 were charges of murder (including infanticide). This is two more than in the previous year. But under the head of accessory to, attempt to, and soliciting to commit murder, the figures have risen from 6 in 1894–5 to 19 in 1895–6, while the cases of manslaughter have risen in the same period from 3 to 20. Of the murder cases, seven resulted in convictions, two of them being reduced to the less grave charge of manslaughter. Five of the same were committed by coolies—jealousy, as usual, being the cause.

The crime of cutting and wounding has greatly increased, a feature of the criminal returns of the year which it is not agreeable to contemplate. For this offence the arrests in 1892-93 were 684, in 1894-95 they were 694, while in 1895-96 they were 847. The Inspector-General of Police attributes this increase to the dangerous fights which occur as the result of drink, or through jealousy or land disputes. As regards the first, it is probable that when the large gangs of labourers from different parts of the island engaged on the construction of the railway were paid, they indulged too freely in drink, and, as a usual consequence, engaged in fights. The second and third causes have always existed and they can scarcely be held to account for the large increase referred to. The resort of large numbers of labourers to Colon and other portions of Central America from time to time for work on the canal and elsewhere, and the bad habits they there acquire, has, no doubt, had much to do with the increase in cases of cutting and wounding. Whatever the cause, the fact is to be much regretted.

Assaults on the police were 351 against 349 in 1894-95, while cases of obstructing the police in their duty were 57 as against 75 the year before.

Of offences against property, committed with violence, the number rose from 326 in 1894-95 to 429 in 1895-6. The convictions were 245 this year as against 184 in the year before. Of offences against property, committed without violence, the number was 5,004 as against 4,079 in 1894-95. To this increase prædial larceny contributes no less than 1,560. It is hoped that the legislation dealing with this subject passed during the session of the Legislative Council in 1896 may go far towards checking this growing evil.

The number of habitual criminals under police supervision during the year was 1,250. Three hundred and eighteen habituals were re-convicted in 1895-96. In 1894-95 the number was 252.

The Inspector-General reports that the discipline of the Force has been maintained, and he has written favourably as to the manner in which officers and men have discharged their duties. As legislation proceeds and as the population grows, these duties become heavier, and it is creditable to the Force, which gets less sympathy from the general public than it is entitled to, that so much good work is got through year by year with so little friction. There are calls for new stations in many parts of the island,

There are calls for new stations in many parts of the island, and it has become necessary to obtain the authority of the Legislative Council to increase the Force by 75 men. This will enable something to be done in the way of meeting the demand for police protection in parts of the island which are in need of it, and will tend, it is hoped, to an increased observance of law and order throughout the community.

Prisons.

The daily average number of prisoners in custody during each of the past five years, and the number on the 31st March of each year, *i.e.*, the day on which the financial year ends, were respectively as follows:—

Ye	ar.	Daily Average Number in Custody.	Number on 31st March of Year.	
1892 -		940	988	
1893 -		1,004	964	
1894 -	and d	1,008	943	
1895 -	-	916	957	
1896 -		1,008	1,094	

On the 31st March 1896 and 1895 there were also respectively 26 and 9 persons under detention in local lock-ups, for periods of 14 days and under.

The following Return gives some of the other main statistics of the Department for the year 1895-96 as compared with those the previous year:—

			Year ended	l 31st March
monto de la como	week.		1896.	1895
Commitments :—			4,289	2 654
To prison - To lock-ups -			818	3,654 575
Total			5,107	4,229

JAMAICA. 1895-6

Land the State of	Year ended	31st March
sus pea seonos garage-res lo	1896.	1895.
Re-convictions	1,717	1,210
Deaths:— General Penitentiary— Other prisons———————————————————————————————————	10 12	10 15
Total	22	25
Executions	5	1
FINANCIAL.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
ross expenditure	19,292 4 10	18,531 15 1
Fross earnings in cash	5,606 11 0	5,688 8 7
Net cost of maintaining prisons -	13,685 13 10	12,843 6 5
Cost per prisoner	13 11 $6\frac{1}{2}$	14 0 5
Estimated value of labour yielding no return.	5,658 2 0	4,667 13 2
Estimated value of bricklaying work and stone quarried (General Penitentiary).	4,294 16 11	4,238 15 0
Washing and repairing (General Penitentiary).	1,086 11 1	1,742 14 5

The number of deaths per 1,000, reckoned on the basis of the average daily number of prisoners in custody was 18.48 in the General Penitentiary, compared with 19.08 last year. In the other prisons, 25.7 in 1896, 38.26 in 1895. The numbers in 1894 were 37.8 and 61.8, thus showing a continuous lessening of the death-rate for the three years in question. The greatest number of sick persons in the penitentiaries during 1896 who were treated in hospital on any one day was 16, and of persons treated outside the hospital 39. The average per-centages were 6.7 and 26.2 respectively.

Discipline has been well maintained in the prisons and the mark system at the penitentiary continues to work satisfactorily. Religious services have been regularly conducted at the several prisons, and school held at the General Penitentiary and St.

Catherine and Falmouth district prisons.

The several prison buildings are reported as being in good order. Two new ranges of cells were completed at the St. Catherine's district prison, and the site for the further extension of that prison acquired. When completed, the closing of the few remaining district and short term prisons will follow (one short term prison was closed during the year) and prisoners hitherto committed to them will be sent to the St. Catherine district prison, the Middlesex and Surrey County Gaol or the local lock-ups.

Reformatories.

Boys' Reformatory.—On the 31st March 1896 there were 207 boys in the reformatory at Stony Hill, as compared with 200 on

the 31st March 1895. Of these 207, 120 belonged to the Reformatory and 87 to the Industrial School section. The daily average number of boys in 1894 was 206; 1895, 199; and 1896, 203.

JANARCA. 1895-6.

Of 169 boys discharged during the three years in question, as far as known, seven, or 4:15 per cent., were reconvicted and sent to prison during the year 1895-96.

There were three boys out on license at the end and nine

at the commencement of the year.

The following are the other main statistics of the institution for the year:—

Gross expenditure Less earnings by labour £ s. d. and sale of articles - 549 7 11 Less reimbursement from	£ 3,707	s .d. 4 10
parishes for Industrial School children - 1,148 14 9	1,698	2 8
Net cost	2,009	2 2
Gross cost per head per diem	e listeres Portein proper so	d 1·97 6·49 5·15 3·07 s. d.
Work done for customers and produce sold Work bringing no money return -	462 999	19 9
Rewards paid	38	3 0

Marks awarded school, 59, making it a good second-class one. The usual religious services were conducted during the year.

The boys were actively employed during the year under trained superintendence in garden and field labour (part of which was for hire on neighbouring properties) and at carpenter's mason's, bricklayer's, blacksmith's and tailor's work. They also did the usual cooking, baking, &c., of the institution, and baked for the Girls' Reformatory and Hope Industrial School.

The boys on their discharge are provided with an outfit for the trades they have been taught.

With the exception of several mild cases of influenza, chickenpox, measles and fever, which were also prevalent in the neighbourhood, the health of the inmates was generally satisfactory.

Girls' Reformatory.

On the 31st March 1896 there were 22 girls in the Reformatory at Admirals Pen, as compared with 25 at the commencement of the year. The daily average number was 23, against 27 in 1894-95. There are no girls out on license.

The gross cost of each child was 1s. 8d. per diem, in 1895 1s. $6\frac{1}{2}d$.; the daily cost of superintendence 7.8d., and of diet 4d.

The total cost of maintaining the institution was 7011. 7s. 3d., but after deducting reimbursements from parishes for industrial school children, and the value of work done by the girls, the actual cost of the institution was only 415l. 17s. 11d.

The girls were employed as usual in cooking, preparing starch, making, washing, &c., their own clothes, making up underclothing

for the boys at Stony Hill, and clothing for immigrants.

Divine service is regularly held, and prayers are read daily. The health of the girls during the year has been exceptionally good.

Vital Statistics,

There has been a net increase of population during the year of 11,126, being a rate of increase of 17.3 per 1,000 persons living, against an increase at the rate of 17.1 per 1,000 in the previous year. The total population at 31st March last is estimated at 694,865 souls, or an addition of over 55,000 since the census of

The mean population for the year 1895-96 is taken at 690,667,

and the rates for the year are calculated on that basis.

The number of marriages during the year was 3,242, equal to a rate of 4.6 marriages per 1,000 of population. Last year the rate was 5.3, while in the year before that it was 5.5. the rate has been lower in 1895-96 than in any one of the past five years.

Of the persons married 48.6 per cent. signed the marriage register by making their mark, more bridegrooms than brides

being able to sign their names.

Ten years ago 55.8 per cent. signed by mark. In so far as this may be regarded as an indication of educational progress, it would show a slow rate, but the improvement has all been in the

last five years only.

The births during the year have been 26,842, or a rate of 38.8 per 1,000 of the mean population. Of these no less than 16,331 were illegitimate, or a rate of 60.8 per 100 births. It is curious how the returns of illegitimacy vary in the different parishes; e.g., in St. Andrew the rate is 53.8, while in St. Mary, the adjoining parish, it is 65.6, and in St. Thomas, adjoining it on the other side, it is 73.7. The influence of a less indulgent public opinion on this subject, which may be hoped for as a result of education, will ere long, I trust, have a beneficial result in bringing about a less discreditable state of things.

The deaths registered in the year numbered 15,716, the rate per 1,000 of mean population being 22.7. This is a somewhat heavier mortality than in 1894-95 when the deaths were 14,321. Of the total deaths 30.5 per cent. were those of children under one year of age, while 43 per cent. were of children under five years, or, to put the matter in another light, 17.8 of every 100 children born failed to reach one year, and 25.4 died before they were five years old.

The Registrar-General has endeavoured to test, from the statistics of his department, the correctness or otherwise of the impression that the prevalence of illegitimacy is a principal cause of high infant mortality. It is found that, so far as Kingston is concerned, the impression is not well founded. Of every 100 children born legitimate 27.5 died under one year, while of every 100 illegitimate 22.4 died under one year. Taking the rates for the whole island, however, 15 of every 100 legitimate births died under the age mentioned, while 19.6 of each 100 illegitimates died within a year.

The returns of deaths not medically certified show a strange apparent unwillingness on the part of the mass of the people to avail themselves of the medical aid now so easily obtainable. Of the 15,716 deaths in the year 11,688, or 74.3 per cent., were registered without medical certificate as to the cause of death having been obtained.

DEPENDENCIES OF JAMAICA.

In the Dependency of the Cayman Islands the total births in Grand Cayman during the year were 45.6 per 1,000 and numbered 170, of which 12, or 7 per cent., were illegitimate.

The deaths were 26, being an annual rate of 6.9 per 1,000 of

the population.

In Cayman Brac and Little Cayman the births were 33, seven

being illegitimate, and the deaths five.

The marriages in Grand Cayman numbered 21, and in the smaller islands two.

General.

Although the year was not one of special prosperity it cannot be said to have been one of depression in the Island generally. No doubt some industries have not been so fortunate as in previous periods, but others have been prosperous. Trade has not declined although it has not largely increased in volume. The value of the imports of the Colony has again risen above that of any previous year, showing that the purchasing power of the population has not diminished.

The construction of the railway to Port Antonio has been vigorously prosecuted, and a part of this extension was completed during the year. When the year closed (31st March 1896), the work was well advanced and nearing completion. The line to Montego Bay (which was finished early in 1895) has enabled the

JAMAICA. 1895-6.

postmaster to double the mail service between Kingston and the western part of the island, and private parties have, with commendable enterprise, initiated a coach service connecting with the railway the towns in the west which the line does not reach. The people are undoubtedly beginning to recognise the value, and to take increased advantage, of improved means of communication, and I have no doubt that in Jamaica as elsewhere postal facilities and conveniences for travel both by road and rail will tend to their moral as well as their material advancement. In the towns of the Island the municipal authorities are aiding in the general progress by the introduction, so far as their resources will allow, of those measures which tend either to the increase of comfort, the improvement of health, or the transaction of business. In some places the electric light and the telephone have been introduced. In Kingston these conveniences have long been Much attention is being given on all hands to sanitary matters, particularly in the provision of wholesome water. Kingston the laying of the sewers in connexion with the sewerage scheme inaugurated some years ago was completed so far as the streets are concerned, and I had recently the pleasure of opening the pumping station in connexion with the works. The house connexions are now being rapidly made.

I regret that the hopes I expressed in my last report that the cattle disease had been checked and would shortly disappear, have not been realised. Although individual owners have not perhaps suffered so severely as in 1894, the disease has spread and most of the districts of the Island have been visited by it. Steps have been taken since the year closed to which this reports refers, to obtain the best veterinary opinion and advice on the subject. The result of the measures which may be adopted cannot, however, be

now reported.

The demand for Jamaica oranges which has risen since disaster overtook the groves in Florida has been a great help to many of the country districts during the year. The number exported reached the considerable total of 97 millions, of an estimated value of 169,800l. The year before the value was only 48,700l., while four years ago it was less than half that sum.

Persistent complaints of the prevalence of prædial larceny resulted in the passing last session of two Laws dealing with the subject, the enforcement of which will, I hope, check this long-

standing evil.

The health of the Island was good during the year; the fears of an epidemic breaking out in Kingston by the turning up of the soil during the progress of the improvement works have proved groundless. We were fortunate, too, in escaping hurricane, earthquake, and other disasters which have not infrequently overtaken countries in these latitudes.

HENRY A. BLAKE, Governor.

King's House, 5th November 1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 180.

LABUAN.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 157 of this Series)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

October 1896.



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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colon	у.				Year.
146	Gibraltar					1894
147	Falkland Islands -		-	- 1	-	"
148	Hong Kong -		•		-	"
149	Straits Settlements	-	-	-	-	,,,
150	Lagos	-		-	-	,,
151	Seychelles -	-	-	-	-	,,
152	Basutoland -	-	-	-	-	1894-5
153	Fiji	-		-	-	1894
154	St. Helena -	-		-	-	"
155	Ceylon	-			-	27
156	Mauritius -	4	•	-	-	,,,
157	Labuan	-	1.5	-	-	99
158	Gold Coast -	-		w	-	"
159	British Guiana -				-	"
160	Sierra Leone -	-		-		
161	Jamaica	-	-	-	-	1894–95
162	British Honduras -	-	1988	-	-	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	-		-		1894-95
164	Newfoundland -	• 550	V 4. 1. 7		-	1894
165	Gambia	-			-	,,,
166	Bermuda - , -	-			-	,,
167	Leeward Islands -	-			-	,,
168	British New Guinea	-	-	-	-	1894-95
169	Zululand	-			-	1895
170	Sienra Leone -		•	-	-	"
171	Gibraltar	-		-	-	,,,
172	Malta	-	-	-	-	,,,
173	Barbados		-			,,
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	-	-	-		,,
175	Falkland Islands -	-		-	-	"
176	St. Helena -	-		-	-	77
177	Bahamas	-			-	"
178	Hong Kong -			-	-	"
179	Windward Islands -	-		-	-	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colon	у.		Subject.
1	Gold Coast	0.00		Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	-		Forests.
2 3	Sierra Leone		• .	Geology and Botany.
	Canada -	-		Emigration.
4 5	Bahamas -			Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	-		Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	-		Mineral Resources.

No. 180.

I.ABUAN. 1895.

LABUAN.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 157.)

Governor BEAUFORT to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN

Sir,

Labuan, July 27 1896.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Labuan Blue Book for the year 1895.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The total amount collected was \$47,907.78, while the total expenditure was \$70,316.79, showing a deficit of \$22,409.01, which was borne by the British North Borneo Company.

The following table shows the chief sources of revenue and the increase or decrease from the same source in 1894, cents being omitted:—

Source.			Received in 1895.	Increase in 1895.	Decrease in 1895.
Land revenue -			\$ 2,934	\$ 605	\$
Rents, exclusive of land	-		4,176	315	_
Licenses (opium, pawn, tobacco).	spirit	and	23,672	3,990	-
Fines and fees -		in .	2,459	-	77
Postal and inland revenue	-		8,199	3,710	184

A considerable increase in the amount collected for quit rents owing to the grant to the New Central Borneo Company of 10 square miles, the increased rent paid for the Ussher Market, together with the substantial increase of \$3,990 for the rent of the opium and other farms, are a satisfactory sign of progress.

The increase in postal revenue was caused by the demands of stamp collectors.

o 93790. Wt. 20348.

LABUAN. 1895. The heavy increase in the expenditure was caused by the fulfilment of the agreement under which the British North Borneo Company promised to build suitable offices and houses for the staff of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company. These were commenced in 1894, but the main portion of the expenditure was incurred in the year under review. The new buildings stand on the hill, 1½ miles from the town, in about 2½ acres of land, and comprise an operating office, superintendent's house, and a house for the other officials. They are substantial and commodious buildings, the total cost having been \$23,708.

Public works were confined to repairs, but the unprecedented amount of cart and carriage traffic during the construction of the telegraph buildings necessitated an unforeseen expenditure on the roads. The total amount spent on public works was \$5,142, as

against \$1,142 in 1894.

COUNCIL AND ASSEMBLIES.

There are none, the Colony being administered as part of the

British North Borneo Company's territory.

By an Ordinance, No. IV. of 1891, provision was made for the formation of a Chinese Advisory Board, but the board was never constituted.

Efforts have been lately renewed to induce the Chinese to form such a representative board, but they failed, owing to the apathy

of the Chinese.

The Victoria Lighting and Sanitary Committee, constituted under Ordinance IV. of 1882 and II. of 1883, never had any real life and has been discontinued. Efforts have also been lately made to re-establish this, but they, too, failed owing to the refusal of the leading European inhabitants to join the committee. The work of the committee therefore, keeping the town in a sanitary state, repairing the roads and bridges, and lighting the town, are carried out by the ordinary administration, while a rate is levied in aid of the cost.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

The principal changes during the year were as follows:—

Mr. C. V. Creagh, C.M.G., Governor, left the Colony on 12th June and was succeeded by myself. My commission was publicly

read and I took the prescribed oaths on the 13th June.

Mr. Holkar, Chief Constable, Gaoler, and Postmaster, retired from the service on pension at the end of the year, and Mr. Applin, Police Magistrate, went on leave in December, his place being taken by Mr. G. M. O'B. Hersford, transferred from Kudat. Mr. Ponsonby, Treasury Clerk, was transferred to Sandakan and his place filled by Mr. Wai Sik. Mr. P. G. Mathias was appointed Overseer of the Public Works in succession to Lant, deceased, who had served more than 27 years in Labuan.

CHURCHES.

LABUAN. 1895.

Although there are about 32 European and Eurasian inhabitants of the Colony, no church has yet been built to replace that burned down in 1889. The Lord Bishop generally visits Labuan once a year, and the chaplain from Sandakan two or three times a year.

EDUCATION.

The only educational establishment is a small school in Victoria built by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel; this is conducted, under the direction of the bishop and chaplain, by a Chinese schoolmaster. The average daily attendance is about a dozen boys, no girls.

The British North Borneo Company contribute \$200 per annum

to support it.

LEGISLATION.

The Ordinances enacted were: No. I., to regulate the practice of barristers and others. This empowers the Governor to admit persons duly qualified in the United Kingdom, India, or a British Colony, as barristers, &c., to practise as such in Labuan; and makes it an offence to practise without having been so admitted. No. II., to provide for the better administration of justice. By this a proclamation in force in British North Borneo was brought into force in Labuan. The proclamation merely adapts the Indian Code of Criminal Procedure to the circumstances of the territory.

CURRENCY.

By two Orders of Her Majesty in Council published in the Official Gazette, the British dollar was legalised and the currency generally was regulated.

TRADE.

There was a falling off in the value of imports as compared with 1894 of \$166,991 but an increase in the value of exports of \$83,801.

		1894.	1895.
Imports -		\$ 852,880	\$ 685,889
72		182,820	566,621

In imports the falling off was in food, drinks, and narcotics about \$17,000.

						\$
Raw materia	al			-	-	15,000
Manufacture	d ar	ticles		24.	-	143,000
'The greatest fa	lls o	ccurred	in—			
Rice, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	13,000
Trees II Deep	-	-				16,000
Machinery	-	-	- 1		-	25,000

Sundries - - - 50,000

Treasure - - - 65,000

Whereas there were increases in —

Damar - - - about 35,000

Gutta percha - - - , 11,400

Cloth - - - , 10,000

As regards exports; food, drinks, and narcotics show a small falling off of \$200; raw material an increase of \$135,800, due to gutta percha, \$11,400; and coal, \$119,600; manufactured articles a falling off of \$30,000, chiefly sago flour, \$46,000; and sundries, \$14,000: as against an increase in raw sago of \$27,000.

Shipping.

The following table shows that the carrying trade is increasing, mainly due to the output from the coal mines:—

	-			No. of Vessels.	Tonnage
1894		-	-	121	56,879
1895	-		_	135	70,367

Throughout the year there were three passenger steamers running regularly between Singapore and Labuan, going to North Borneo ports, and two trading with Sulu Celebes and one with Brunei. Another steamship is exclusively employed carrying coal from Labuan to Singapore.

There is again a considerable increase in the amount of coal shipped from Labuan mines as follows:—

	Year.		Tons Exported.	Value in Dollars
1892	-	-	12,004	58,681
1893	-	-	4,112	22,616
1894		-	14,597	67,304
1895		_	39,973	187,572

Agricultural.

There is evidence of some development in cultivation, some 12 applicants having purchased 196 acres of land during the year, whereas in 1894 no land was sold.

Gaols and Crime.

There was a satisfactory decrease in serious crime.

		1894.	1895.
Offences reported -		193	93
Convictions	-	111	100
Daily average in prison		15.81	8.56

TABUAN. 1895.

The latter total, however, being reduced somewhat by the transfer of some of the prisoners to other gaols.

Hospitals.

Two hundred and eighty-one patients were admitted during the year, 205 were cured, 22 were relieved, four absconded, and 28 died. This large number was caused by the treatment in the Labuan Hospital of many of the men employed in making a road and erecting a telegraph on the mainland of Borneo. In other respects the general health was good, though an epidemic of measles and some sporadic cases of influenza occurred. The measles is reported to have caused a good many deaths and some cases of blindness in North Borneo.

Postal.

Twenty-six thousand five hundred and thirteen letters and cards and 20,292 packets and parcels passed through the Post Office, as against 20,324 letters and 15,697 packets in 1894, and the value of orders issued and paid was \$5,055, as compared with \$1,918 in 1894. Stamps were sold to the value of \$8,692.

General.

The Colony was visited by H.M.S. "Mercury" in June, by H.M.S. "Alacrity" and Vice-Admiral Buller, C.B., and by H.M.S. "Redpole" in December, by His Highness Rajah Brooke of Sarawak in March.

The s.s. "Saint Pancras," 4,200 tons, of Liverpool, was totally wrecked on the Samarang shoal, but no lives were lost. She was homeward bound from Manila with a cargo of hemp and copra.

A substantial lighthouse was erected on Pulan (Island) Papan, but the lamps used did not give good results and the lighthouse was not notified as in use.

One fire occurred, in which a house and shed were burnt, but the police were able to prevent the conflagration from spreading. I have, &c.

> LEICESTER P. BEAUFORT, Governor.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 185.

LAGOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 150 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

December 1896.



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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colo	ny.				Year.
154	St. Helena -				-	1894
155	Ceylon	-		-	-	"
156	Mauritius -	-			-	,,
157	Labuan	-		-	-	"
158	Gold Coast -	-		-	-	"
159	British Guiana -	-			-	"
160	Sierra Leone -	-	-	-	-	"
161	Jamaica	-		-	-	1894-95
162	British Honduras	-	-	-	-	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	-		•	-	1894-93
164	Newfoundland -	10		-	-	1894
165	Gambia	-			-	"
166	Bermuda -	-		-	-	,,
167	Leeward Islands -	-	-	•	-	,,
168	British New Guinea		-	-	-	1894-98
169	Zululand -	-		-		1895
170	Sierra Leone -	-		-	-	"
171	Gibraltar -	-	-			29
172	Malta	-			-	"
173	Barbados -			-		22
174	Turks and Caicos Islands		to entire		-	"
175	Falkland Islands -	-	-		-	"
176	St. Helena -	.0		-		"
177	Bahamas			-	-	"
178	Hong Kong -	-			-	"
179	Windward Islands			-		"
180	Labuan	-		•		"
181	Trinidad and Tobago	-			-	,,
182	Seychelles -	-			-	,,,
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues					1894-9
184	British Honduras				-	1895

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony	5 /4	Subject.		
1	Gold Coast -		Economic Agriculture.		
2	Zululand -	-	Forests.		
3	Sierra Leone	35 - 1	Geology and Botany.		
4	Canada -		Emigration.		
5	Bahamas -		Sisal Industry.		
6		 -	Bubonic Plague.		
7	Hong Kong Newfoundland		Mineral Resources.		

No. 185.

LAGOS 1895.

LAGOS.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 150.)

The ACTING GOVERNOR to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Lagos, October 10, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to forward a report, prepared by myself when acting as Colonial Secretary, on the contents of the Blue Book for 1895.

I have, &c. FRANK ROHRWEGER.

REVENUE.

The revenue from all sources for 1895 amounted to 142,049l., as against 137,017l. in 1894, an increase of a little over 5,000l., due for the most part to customs' receipts. It is too early yet to estimate the effect which the doubling of the spirit duty may have on the revenue, as the Ordinance providing for that important change only came into operation late in the year. It is probable that the trade in spirits will be diverted, rather than checked, by the increased duty.

The apparent decrease of 2,352l. for "Licences and Internal Revenue" is due to the fact that liquor licences for 1895 were taken out, and the proceeds carried to account, in 1894.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure during the year amounted to 144,484l., as against 124,829l. in 1894. The Departments principally responsible for this increase were Government vessels (two new steam launches, with additional expense for increased staff, fuel, and upkeep), the Medical Department (the staff of which it was found necessary considerably to increase), Transport (owing in a great measure to the necessity of constant communication with the distant military posts in the interior), and Public Works, under which heading has been included a sum of 7,000l. expended in connexion with the iron bridges now being constructed to Iddo Island and the mainland.

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SIR,

LAGOS. 1895. The statement of assets and liabilities shows a balance in favour of the Colony of 46,423l. on the 31st of December 1895, as against 48,858l. on December 31st, 1894.

SAVINGS BANK.

Depositors in the Government Savings Bank numbered 543 on December 31st, 1895, as against 416 on the last day of 1894, a most satisfactory increase, indicating amongst other things that the schoolmaster is abroad.

The Savings Bank, which is under the management and control of the Colonial Treasurer, allows interest at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, and the deposits during the year amounted to 7,157l.

DEFENCES.

The Lagos Constabulary during the year under review was divided into the armed Houssa Constabulary and the civil police, both being under the command of an inspector-general assisted by two inspectors and seven assistant inspectors. The armed constabulary numbered 577 of all ranks, with 150 reserve, and were armed with Snider B. L. rifles. In addition to these, the force possessed five 7-pr. M. L. R. steel guns, one rocket trough, one 3 quick-firing Nordenfeldt, one 0.45 Gatling gun, three Maxim guns, two three-barrel Nordenfeldts 50. The civil police numbered 212, and the water police 12. The sum expended on the maintenance of the entire force during 1895 amounted to 26,291l. Late in the year a detachment of 100 men, under Inspector Tucker and Assistant-Inspector Humfrey, was "lent" to the Gold Coast Government and assisted in the operations against Kumassi. With the year 1895, the "Lagos Constabulary," as such, ceased to exist. Two separate and distinct corps, the one purely military, known as the "Houssa Force," under the Inspector-General, the other purely civil, known as the "Civil Police," under a newlycreated commissioner of police, were organised in its place. result of the change cannot be dealt with in this report. It is in contemplation to re-arm the Houssa force with the Martini-Metford carbine, the discarded Sniders being handed over to the civil police for use in cases of emergency.

The "Margaret," an armed shallow-draft stern-wheeler, specially adapted for service on the lagoons, represents the floating defence of the Colony, but her state of repair will render it necessary that further provision should be made for this service in the immediate future.

Of Her Majesty's ships on the West African station, the "Alecto" alone was able to cross Lagos Bar.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The close of the year 1895 saw the commencement of the most important public works ever undertaken by the Lagos Government, the construction of the "Carter-Denton" bridges,

LAGOS. 1895.

connecting the Island of Lagos with Iddo Island, and Iddo with the mainland, and the building of a railway, the first section of which will run to Otta, a distance of about 20 miles. The cost of this work will be met by a Government loan, and it is confidently anticipated that the growing prosperity of the Colony, as shown by the published statistics, will enable such a loan to be raised on easy terms. The facilities offered by a railway, both for the development of trade and for Government purposes, can hardly be overrated in such a Colony as Lagos, where carts and cartroads are unknown, rivers are open for a few months in the year only, and the rich produce of the interior must still be carried to the coast in 40 or 50 lb. loads on the heads of natives, a method of transport as costly as it is primitive.

The building of what were known as "Temporary Hospital Huts" was proceeded with during the year on a site acquired by Government on the Marina, formerly occupied by the premises of Messrs. Regis Ainè, the old Colonial hospital being in a dilapidated condition and inconveniently situated at the back of new Government The huts or bungalows when sent out from England were found, on their erection, to be so well adapted for the purpose for which they were intended, that it is now proposed to let them stand as permanent buildings, and to provide a main or central building on the same light lines in place of the more solid structure originally designed.

A brick house has been erected at the back of the Public Works

Department for the reception of the ice-machine and engine.

Additional customs' warehouse accommodation to meet the growing wants of the Colony was commenced in May, and the work was being proceeded with at the close of the year. A new Post Office, commenced about the same time, was approaching completion on the 31st of December.

The extension of the prison, and the provision of new court houses for Ikorodu and Epe, and new quarters for the Resident at Ibadan, were amongst the other works commenced during a very

busy year, and not completed before 1896.

In view of the growing importance and magnitude of the works undertaken by the Public Works Department, it was thought desirable to augment the staff, and an officer under the name of "Director of Public Works" was selected to take supreme charge of the Department. At the close of the year, however, he had not arrived in the Colony.

IMPORTS.

The total value in sterling of the Imports into the Colony during the year 1895 amounted to 815,815l., 605,464l. coming from the United Kingdom, and 175,669l. from Germany. The value of imports in 1894 amounted to 744,5611, showing an increase of Spirits (Geneva) fell from 82,457l. in 1894 to 65,455l. in 1895 (the duty was doubled by Ordinance of the 12th October), cotton goods from 279,433l. in 1894 to 255,059l. in 1895, and a decrease was noted in the importation of haberdashery, earthenware.

Lagos. 1895. and kolah nuts (which fell from 25,889l. in 1894 to 18,901l. in 1895). The articles which show the largest increase are tobacco, which rose from 15,871l. in 1894 to 20,037l. in 1895; shooks, 14,919l. in 1894 to 18,909l. in 1895; and silver (specie), the importation of which increased from 36,036l. in 1894 to no less than 172,548l. in 1895. This increase was no doubt indirectly due to the rise of the rubber industry herein-after mentioned.

EXPORTS.

The exports for the year 1895, including not only produce from the Colony, but also British and foreign produce and manufactures, showed the large increase of 163,913l.; the figures being 985,595l. as against 821,682l. in 1894. An increase in the export of palm oil to Germany to the value of 17,626l. partly accounts for this; but by far the most important factor is the extraordinary development of the rubber industry, the statistics of which are almost incredible. On the Gold Coast we are told that the export of rubber, which in 1882 was nil, had attained in 1893 to the annual value of 200,000l. Lagos, in 1894, shipped 5,723 lbs. of rubber to Great Britain, and 144 lbs. to Germany—in all 5,867 lbs., of the value of 324l. 6s. 4d. In 1895 these figures rose to no less than 5,069,576 lbs., of a total sterling value of 269,893l.

So far back as 1882, Sir Alfred Moloney, K.C.M.G., to whom is due the credit of starting the industry on the Gold Coast, had suggested the possibility of a similar industry in Lagos, but it was not until 1894 that any progress became apparent. In that year the Governor of Lagos, Sir Gilbert Carter, K.C.M.G., issued

the following notice:-

"His Excellency the Governor desires to notify to the mercantile community of Lagos that he has been able to iuduce a party of natives from the Gold Coast, experienced in rubber collecting, to come to Lagos, with a view to the development of this valuable and important industry. The men have already inspected certain districts, which they report to be rich in rubber-producing plants, and it is confidently hoped that Lagos will shortly be able to compete with the sister Colony of the Gold Coast in the great export of the product."

This confident hope was quickly justified. Merchants took up the idea with enthusiasm. With startling suddenness the easygoing native awoke to the fact that wealth, easily acquired, abounded in the forests round him, and learnt for the first time that in sitting under his own fig tree he had been unconsciously reposing in the shade of the family bank.

There is, unhappily, reason to fear that the usual result may follow this sudden discovery. Already there seem to be grounds for the belief that, in so far as the term "rubber industry" implies the intelligent growth and cultivation of the plant for profit, it conveys a false impression of the methods in vogue in the interior.

Judicious "tapping," with due regard to the life of the tree, and its future usefulness, is the exception; rubber-bearing trees

are ruthlessly sacrificed by irresponsible seekers after wealth, and dead trunks are becoming a too familiar feature in the landscape of the productive districts. Sooner or later a purely destructive policy of this kind must exhaust the richest country; adventurers will have to stray further afield, and the cost of transport will equal or exceed the value of the article.*

LAGOS. 1895.

SHIPPING.

The total number of steam vessels entered and cleared at Lagos during the year 1895 was 908, with a tonnage of 787,285. As compared with 1894 these figures indicate an increase of 29 steamers and a tonnage of about 30,000. Of the whole number, 688 steamers with a tonnage of 636,610, were British, the remainder being, with the exception of two vessels under the Belgian flag, and one small French boat, exclusively German.

One sailing vessel from the Brazils arrived during the year.

NEWSPAPERS.

The Government Gazette, containing the official record of appointments, Ordinances, proclamations, &c., is published monthly from the Secretariat. 3,000 copies were issued during the year 1895.

There are three weekly papers issued by private enterprise—the "Lagos Weekly Record," the "Lagos Standard," and the "Lagos Echo." The number of copies sold is returned—by the editors,—as

"Record" - - - 25,800
"Standard" (Sept. to Dec.) - 15,600
"Echo" - - - 24,960

AGRICULTURE.

The cultivation of coffee is still in its infancy in the Colony, but the Ilaro Plantation Company are continuing their operations with every prospect of success. The variety principally cultivated is the Liberian, but a few Arabian trees are being raised experimentally. The managers of the Ilaro Company report that they have 150 acres planted with 50,000 coffee and 6,000 cocoa plants, while the Ajilete Company have over 60,000 of the former and are also turning their attention to the cultivation of cocoa and kolah nuts.

A few yam or cassava farms surround almost every native village, but it is impossible to estimate the acreage so cultivated. Incidentally these small plots, in conjunction with a very nasty smell, serve the useful purpose of announcing to the traveller the proximity of human habitations.

^{*} A very interesting article on the rise of the Lagos rubber industry, together with an account of the process of preparation, and a highly technical description of the tree principally utilised, known to the natives as "Ire" and to botanists as the "Kickxia Africana," appeared in the Kew Bulletin for October 1895, to which Journal the curious and learned are referred.

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LAGOS. 1895. Besides the all-important palm oil and kernels, kolah nuts, beniseed, ground nuts, and piassava are among the produce cultivated in the Colony.

PRISON.

There is one large and well-appointed central prison in Lagos. Prisoners, whether convicted or committed for trial, being sent there from the districts under escort. The daily average number of prisoners is 125. Shot drill is, at present, the only form of penal labour in force, but bookbinding for Government Departments, screen, basket, and mat making, tailoring, &c., are carried on within the walls of the prison, while gangs of prisoners are constantly employed on the roads and in sanitary work.

The total number of persons committed to prison in 1895 was 354, nine of whom were women, and five "juveniles" under 14 years of age. A very large proportion of these commitments were for minor offences dealt with summarily in the District Commissioner's Court. No death occurred in the prison through-

out the year, and no execution took place.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

There were 517 summary convictions for minor offences during the year 1895, and 119 persons committed for trial at the Criminal Assizes, which are held on the first Monday in every

month throughout the year.

Looking at the ease with which the mud or bamboo walls of houses may be penetrated, it is not surprising that burglary is among the commoner crimes in Lagos, and a good deal remains to be done towards breaking up the organisations that undoubtedly exist, having for their object that particular form of felony. It is curious to note that the native's superstitious belief in "charms" frequently leads to his apprehension and conviction on this charge. The burglar on business bent rarely fails to provide himself with a few of the more potent varieties, warranted to send the householder to sleep, or to render the intruder invisible. So well is this custom known, that the wearing of such "charms" is made illegal by Ordinance. Ordinances, however, are powerless against superstitions, and the native detected in his burglarious transactions is almost invariably found to have some excellent evidence for the prosecution tied round his neck.

POPULATION.

The census of 1891, which gave the population of the Island of Lagos as 33,000, remains the most recent reliable estimate, though it cannot be doubted that a very large increase has taken place since that date. Up country, the inclusion of Ayessan, Itebu, and the Mahin country within the Colony has added a large number of subjects to the British Crown.

The number of births registered during the year 1895 was 1,443, as against 1,197 in 1894, which, taking the population of Lagos Island (where alone registration is carried on) as 33,500, represents a rate of 43 per thousand, an increase of 7 per thousand over 1894. This large increase is due, in the opinion of the Registrar-General, rather to a wider recognition of the requirements of the Registration Ordinance than to any sudden wave of philoprogenitiveness on the part of the population.

Thirty-seven marriages, six less than in 1894, were registered

as having taken place in Christian places of worship.

1,775 deaths were registered in 1895, the largest number on record, as against 1,487 in 1894, fever being responsible for 487, lung diseases for 367, and dysentery and diarrhoea together for 275. Among Europeans the deaths numbered 16, in a community of about 150, seven of these appearing in the returns as due to fever. This, though better than in 1894, when nearly 16 per cent. died, is still sufficiently appalling.

EDUCATION.

The number of schools examined by the inspector under the Education Ordinance 1887 was 29, consisting of 55 departments; 24 infant, 24 primary, 2 secondary, and 5 industrial, the Government grant earned amounting to 1,146l. 16s. The inspector's report is, on the whole, satisfactory, but attention is drawn to the need for the enlargement of buildings in certain cases, and to the necessity of the provision of proper sanitary accommodation.

The number of children on the registers of inspected schools

in 1895 was :--

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Anglican		-	1,162	558	1,720
Wesleyan		4 -	272	199	671
Roman Catholic -	dist.		403	359	762
United Native African -		-	92	31	123
Total -	The said	-	2,129	1,147	3,276

The daily average attendance being 2,427. Of the children attending, 70.9 per cent. were Christians of various denominations,

13.0 per cent. Mahommedans, and 16.1 per cent. Pagans.

The per-centage of Mahommedan children has slightly decreased since 1894, but there are not wanting signs that the opposition of the leading Mahommedans to the education of their children in the European manner is breaking down, and that in the immediate future the influence of a more liberal form of education will make itself apparent among that important section of the community.

Lagos. 1895.

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LAGOS. 1895.

LEGISLATION.

Two Ordinances of considerable importance were passed by the Legislative Council during the year 1895—viz., No. 5, "to amend the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1892," and No. 10, for the establishment of the Civil Police. The former doubled the duty on spirits imported into the Colony (raising it from one shilling to two shillings per imperial gallon), and its effect upon the revenue remains to be seen; the latter dissociated the Civil Police from the Houssa Constabulary, and placed the force under a distinct basis as regards organisation and management. As this Ordinance was passed only on the 27th of December 1895, no report as to the result of the change can be made as yet.

HOSPITAL STATISTICS.

Seven hundred and twenty-four patients were treated in the Colonial Hospital during the year, 93 deaths occurring. Outpatients numbered 7,780, and 4,269 were assisted at Ereko Dispensary.

Patients treated at the Contagious Diseases Hospital numbered 102,72 being small-pox cases. The number of people vaccinated

under the Ordinance No. II. of 1873 was 12,753.

The nursing at the Colonial Hospital is in the hands of natives, but with a view to the better carrying out of this important work in future, it is intended to secure the services of

trained European nurses.

There is no lunatic asylum in the Colony, but it is proposed to erect a suitable building at an early date. At present lunatics are sent under escort to Sierra Leone, where their treatment and maintenance are paid for by the Lagos Government.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The events of the year 1895 having the most important bearing, for good or evil, on the destinies of the Colony were the commencement of the railway and bridges, the development of the rubber industry, and the doubling of the spirit duty. The decision, based on the report of the consulting engineer, to place the terminus of the railway on Iddo Island, instead of in Lagos itself, has been the subject of much controversy, the mercantile community being practically unanimous in favour of a situation in Lagos. In view of this fact it is possible that the question may be re-opened. The route to be followed by the later sections of the line has also been much discussed, but it is agreed on all sides that the two large native towns, Abeokuta and Ibadan, must be included among the places to be connected with the coast.

The rubber industry has been already alluded to, together with the possibility that the short-sighted rapacity of the collector may, if not checked and controlled, kill the goose that lays the golden egg. Of the effect of the doubling of the spirit duty it is too early as yet to speak, the Ordinance having only come into operation late in the year. The immediate result was, of course, a check to the importation of spirits, but it remains to be seen whether this will be permanent.

Lagos. 1895.

A commission started late in the year charged with the duty of delimiting the Anglo-French boundary between Lagos and Dahomey. It is proposed that this boundary be definitely agreed upon up to the 9th parallel of north latitude, and there is no reason to anticipate any dissension on the subject. English interests are in the hands of Mr. F. C. Fuller, District Commissioner, while France is represented by Captain Plé, Special Service Officer.

Relations with adjacent tribes have been, on the whole, of a friendly nature, but an unprovoked and obviously organised attack made upon Captain Bower, Resident at Ibadan, on the occasion of his visiting Oyo late in the year, abruptly disturbed the general sense of security in that part of the country. Captain Bower, having beaten off his assailants, in default of explanation or apology, shelled the town, and his Excellency Sir Gilbert Carter, having proceeded to Oyo and personally investigated the

circumstances, approved of this action.

The improvement of the bar, a comprehensive survey of the districts, and the provision of a water supply and drainage system for the town of Lagos are among the more pressing and important wants of the Colony still remaining unsatisfied. In view, however, of the heavy liabilities to be contracted in connexion with the railway and bridges, it is necessary to proceed on the path of progress and improvement with the caution rendered imperative by the duty of keeping a constant eye on the revenue. The statistics for 1895 give no hint that the growing prosperity of the Colony is about to suffer a check, nor is there, throughout the community, any lack of the spirit and enterprise necessary to face the extended responsibilities that extended boundaries and interests involve,

Frank Rohrweger,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 200.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 167.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty, July 1897.



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1897.

[C.—8279.-24.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colo	ny.				Year.
167	Leeward Islands -	-			-	1894
168	British New Guinea		-	-25	5 Te	1894-95
169	Zululand		•			1895
170	Sierra Leone -	- 125	-	-		"
171	Gibraltar		-		-	"
172	Malta					,,
173	Barbados		-		-	,,
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	-	-	-	-	"
175	Falkland Islands -	-	-	•	-	, ,,
176	St. Helena -	•	•	-		79
177	Bahamas	-	-		-	"
178	Hong Kong -	-		•		"
179	Windward Islands -	-	-		-	,,,
180	Labuan -	•	- 1		-	"
181	Trinidad and Tobago	•			-	"
182	Seychelles	-	•	- 100	-	,,,
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	•	•		-	1894 and
						1895
184	British Honduras -	•	-		-	1895
185	Lagos	-	•		•	,,,
186	Basutoland -			2 2	10	1895-96
187	Ceylon	•		•	-	1895
188	British Guiana -	-				1895–6
189	Gold Coast	-	-	200	-	1895
190	Jamaica	•	•	-	-	1895-96
191	Canada -	•	-		-	1895
192	Bermuda	1000		•	-	1896
193	Bahamas	-		-	•	"
194	Zululand	•	-	-		"
195	Gambia	-	-	2.1.	•	- 39
196	Malta	-	-		-	,,,
197	British New Guinea	-	-	• 9	•	1895-96
198	Turks and Caicos Islands	•	•			1896
199	Barbados	-	-	-	-	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	o. Colon			Subject.		
1	Gold Coast	300	e liver	Economic Agriculture.		
2	Zululand -		4	Forests.		
2 3	Sierra Leone		-	Geology and Botany.		
	Canada -		-	Emigration.		
4 5	Bahamas -	-	W 10 -	Sisal Industry.		
6	Hong Kong	-	-	Bubonic Plague.		
6	Newfoundland	-		Mineral Resources.		
8	Western Pacific		_	Solomon Islands.		

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No. 200.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

[For Report for 1894, see No. 167.]

Governor Sir F. FLEMING to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN. (Extract.)

> Government House, Antigua, April 14, 1897.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1895, together with the report by the Colonial

Secretary thereon.

The causes which have led to the unusually long delay in the issue of this Annual Return have been fully explained, and I can only trust, and join in the hope expressed by the Colonial Secretary, that such regrettable delay may not occur again.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE COLONY OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1895.

REVENUE.

The total revenue of the Colony for the year was 119,082l. as compared with 147,357l. in 1894, or a decrease of 28,275l. The respective Presidencies contributed to this decrease as follows:

- 13,330
- 12,227
123
- 1,552
1,043
28,275

If we deduct from the revenue of 1894 the recepts obtained from the sale of obsolete stamps (Antigua 1,825l., St. Kitts-Nevis

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1,615l., Dominica 639l., Montserrat 296l. and Virgin Islands 953l.), also the premium on the sale of Antigua Inscribed Stock, 3,744l.; and from the Revenue of 1895 the proceeds of the sale of old stores in Dominica (900l.) we find that the true decrease is, approximately, as follows:—

				£
-	-	-	-	7,761
-		-	-	10,612
-		-		384
-	-	-		1,256
	•		-	90
			The state of	20.100
				20,103

With the exception of Dominica, which got off lightly, the decrease in the revenues of the various Presidencies is proportionate, or nearly so. Almost every head of revenue has suffered by the general depression in trade consequent upon the low prices realised for sugar. The exceptions are, Customs Duties in St. Kitts-Nevis (on alcoholic liquors only) and Dominica, Excise Duty in Antigua, Land Tax in Montserrat, and Stamp Duties in Dominica, each of which shows an increase. Several other items show trivial increases and a very few remain unaltered. In St. Kitts the abolition of the Statistical Tax caused a loss of 3,267l., whilst fines and forfeitures fell off by 332l. In Antigua, Customs Duties fell off by 3,439l., and a temporary alteration in the method of collecting the Land Tax caused a decrease of 2,032l. from that source.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of the Colony for the year was 165,374l., as compared with 156,182l. in 1894, an increase of 9,192l. The respective Presidencies contributed to this increase as follows:—

					£
Antigua -	-				10,546
Montserrat	-	-			2,401
Virgin Islands	-				352
					13,299
less decrease in				£	
St. Kitts-Nevis		-	-	3,367	
Dominica -				730	4,097
Net increase as	above				9,202

Antigua.

ISLANDS. 1895.

13,106l. is brought to account under Public Works Extraordinary. This amount was not all spent in 1895; part of it had been expended in 1893 and 1894 and charged, erroneously, to Loan Funds, and not included in the Blue Book returns. Federal Contribution was increased by 356l. owing to arrears of 1894 being included; Education by 8201, owing to a more liberal grant in aid of primary and secondary schools; Port and Marine by 7781., principally owing to the upkeep of the launches and boats and the Harbour Master's salary having been transferred from No. 6 Treasury; Post Office by 138l., arrears of former years; and Public Works Recurrent by 2921., extra expenditure on waterworks, filter beds, the Botanic Station and the cleaning of streams. The following items show an apparent saving:- "Charges on account of Public Debt" 2,389l., an unusual contribution of 3,744l. having been made to sinking fund account in 1894; Island Secretary 1981.the 1894 Returns contained two years' salary of the Federal Accountant at 2001. per annum; Treasury 1,2631., the upkeep of the steam launches and boats was transferred to No. 8 Port and Marine, so also was the salary of the Harbour Master. Savings were also effected under the following heads:-Police 1251., Prison 1481., Sanitary 2111., Military 1921., and Telephones 3341., together with about 80% on other items.

Montserrat.

The following items each show an increase:—Charges on account of Public Debt 6881, mainly due to bad accounting in former years; Pensions 1861., Sir Neale Porter 1751. (a new pension) and arrears of 1894; Federal Contribution 1001., arrears of 1894; Hospitals 1881., Education 1771., Miscellaneous 1981., Post Office 1601., and Public Works Extraordinary 6121., roads and bridges and plans for new Treasury, &c. There are several other small increases and a few savings.

Virgin Islands.

The following items each show an increase:—Commissioner 156l., due to unusual savings in 1894 owing to acting appointments; Public Works Extraordinary 177l., new revenue vessel built in 1895. There are also slight increases in other items and a few trivial savings.

St. Kitts-Nevis

The principal items which make up the saving of 3,367l. are: Prisons 294l., Hospitals 764l., Sanitary 341l., Laboratory 103l., Telephones 170l., Miscellaneous 1,778l. (1,600l. was spent on the fibre industry in Anguilla in 1894); Public Works Recurrent

(roads and buildings) 2,003l. and the Coast Guard Service (transferred from Police to Treasury) 8331. The initial cost of this latter service fell on 1894 and only the working cost on 1895. There were excesses under the following Heads:-Charges on account of Public Debt 468l., interest on overdrafts 76l., cost of issuing stock 44l., arrears of 1894 348l; Pensions 178l., several new pensions plus arrears of 1894; Commissioner 1911., Commissioner at 600l. was replaced by an Administrator at 900l. during the year; Education 6221, increased grant to primary schools and increased number of children at Skerretts and Scotts Hill Schools (Antigua); Post Office 247l., contributions to West India Mail Service 1941. for December quarter 1894, brought to account in 1895, plus other arrears of 1894; and Public Works Extraordinary 1,166l., spent on the new Treasury and other There are other excesses and a few savings, none of which are large, and none of which call for special remark.

Dominica.

The following items show an apparent saving:—Federal Contribution 277l., owing to reduced expenditure under the general Government; Police 163l.; Prisons 103l.; Hospitals 302l.; Sanitary 111l.; Miscellaneous 446l.; Post Office 106l.; Telegraphs 400l., the 1894 Return containing two years' subsidy; and Public Works Recurrent 269l.

There were excesses under charges on account of Public Debt, 739l., being half-year's charges on a new loan of 30,000l. Treasury, 688l., an attempt having been made to establish a Coast Guard Service.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the Colony, as compared with the expenditure, shows a total deficit of 46,263l.

Island.			Revenue.	Expenditure.	Deficit.
			£	£	£
Antigua -		-	44,348	70,221	25,873
St. Kitts-Nevis -		-	43,215	55,394	12,179
Dominica -		-	22,859	27,102	4,243
Montserrat -		-	7,125	10,702	3,577
Virgin Islands -		-	1,533	1,954	421
The state of the same of the			119,080	165,373	46,298

PUBLIC DEBT.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

The funded debt of the Colony was increased by 30,000l. (Dominica), and reduced by 100l. (Montserrat). The sinking funds were increased during the year by 2,390l. 17s. 5d.

POPULATION.

According to the Blue Book returns for 1894 the total population of the Colony was 127,723; the births in 1895, as shown by the following table, were 5,372, and the deaths 3,689, causing an increase of 1,683 for the year. The following table gives the births and deaths of each island:—

Island.				Births.	Deaths.	Increase
Antigua				1,509	1,236	273
Barbuda		- 1	-	48	18	30
St. Kitts	-		-	1,379	1,120	259
Nevis -	-	0000	-	625	430	195
Anguilla	-	The res		147	72	75
Dominica	-	- 1		930	484	446
Montserrat			-	532	228	304
Virgin Islands		AULIA	-	202	101	101
	THE			5,372	3,689	1,683

It is not, however, possible to give correct returns of the population of the Colony since 1891, as there are no records kept of either emigration or immigration.

EDUCATION.

The rolls of the primary schools have again shown an increase although not equal to 1894. The increase during 1895 was 686, as against 1,310 in the previous year. The average attendances have risen from 12,069 in 1894 to 12,402 in 1895. These increases have been general in every Presidency, except in Dominica, where a decrease of 130 is shown.

The total amount received in school fees has decreased by 85l. 14s. 2d., the amount of the Government grants has increased by 450l. 13s. 8d., while there is a slight decrease in the voluntary contributions.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The values of the total imports and exports of the Colony, exclusive of internal trade, were respectively 397,122l. and 270,399l., as against 430,708l. and 439,548l., in 1894. An examination of the following table shows that while the imports from the United Kingdom and British Colonies fell off by 35,445l., the increase in the value of goods imported from the United States of America and other foreign countries was 1,859l.

Value of Imports.

TABLE A.

Country from whence is	mported.	Value of Imports, 1894.	Value of Imports, 1895.	Increase in 1895.	Decrease in 1895.
		£	£	£	£
United Kingdom -		206,920	163,376	_	43,544
British Colonies -		47,951	56,050	8,099	
United States -		161,594	162,191	597	
Other Foreign countries		14,243	15,505	1,262	
Total -		430,708	397,122	9,958	43,544

The comparison of the figures for these two years exhibits the fact that, while the imports from the United Kingdom have decreased by 43,544l., the trade with British Colonies has increased by 8,099l., while that with the United States has only slightly increased. In examining the following tables marked B. and C., in which the value and particulars of the principal articles of imports are shown, it will be observed that the decrease has been chiefly in such goods as are used by or on sugar plantations, and on further reference to the value of sugar exported by the Colony it will be at once seen that the decrease in trade is due solely to the purchasing power of estates having been diminished by the very small sugar crop reaped in 1895, in consequence of the phenomenal drought of the previous year, coupled with the unusually low prices realised in 1895.

TABLE B.

Comparative Value of the Imports from the United Kingdom in 1894 and 1895.

Articles.	1894.	1895.	1895.		
Articles.	1034.	1030.	Increase.	Decrease.	
		£	£	£	£
Live animals	-	170	78	_	92
Food stuffs	-	18,302	14,126	-	4,176
Drinks	4	11,364	9,051	-	2,313
Narcotics	-	363	501	138	
Raw materials	-	1,318	716	_	602
Manufactured textile articles	-	108,747	78,168	_	30,579
" metal "	-	26,134	16,146	COMPANY OF	9,988
Other imports	-	40,522	43,647	3,125	-
Total		206,920	162,433	3,263	47,750

TABLE C.

RETURN showing the PRINCIPAL MANUFACTURES under which large differences appear.

Articles.	1894.	1895.	189	1895.		
Alt tioles.	1034.	1093.	Increase.	Decrease		
Manufactured Textile Articles.	£	£	£	£		
Cotton, woollens, &c	66,728	53,886		12,842		
Haberdashery and millinery - Clothing and cloth	41,665 354	24,045 237	=	17,620 117		
	108,747	78,168	_	30,579		
Manufactured Metal Articles.						
Hardware, &c	17,031	12,762	36 <u>3.</u> 8 5.	4,269		
Jewellery	1,019	622	_	397		
Sugar machinery	7,067	2,682	-	4,385		
Other ma hinery	457	71		386		
Miscellaneous machinery -	560	9		551		
	26,134	16,146		9,988		
Other Imports.						
Decreased values of over 400l. appear in the following:—	SANT, SAN		25 (5)	No.		
Boots and shoes	9,631	6,934		2,697		
Bricks and tiles	539	460	153_35	79		
Leather	3,105	2,274	_	831		
Lime	806	658	_	148		
Manure	17,938	3,696	_	14,242		
Packages	3,555	2,206	_	1,349		
Paints	1,467	1,089	- Bar	378		
Rope	1,508	1,485	-	23		
Oil	1,018	1,073	55			
Wood hoops	1,243	1,330	87			
Soap	3,640	2,250	448 - 1 040	1,390		
Furniture	779	425		354		
A STATE OF THE LAND OF THE PARTY OF THE PART	45,229	23,880	142	21,491		

The difference under this head between the Tables B. and C. is consequent upon the value of other importations having been somewhat increased. Trade has, however, in no way been diverted from the United Kingdom to other places, but the decrease in the value of imports is, as I have already remarked, due entirely to the general depression of business through the low price of the staple industries of the Colony.

From the comparative return in Table D., giving the values of the principal articles of imports from the United States of America, it will be seen that under food stuffs there is an increase in 1895 in the value of wheaten flour to the extent of 8,467l., while the trade in lumber has decreased by 6,222l., oilmeal shows a decreased consumption of 2,713l., and shooks used by estates has decreased by 2,162l.

TABLE D.

COMPARATIVE RETURNS of the VALUE of the PRINCIPAL ARTICLES imported from the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

			1894.	1895.	1895.			
A PRINCIPAL OF THE PRIN			1094.	1033.	Increase.	Decrease.		
			£	£	£	£		
Flour, wheaten	-	-	65,508	57,041		8,467		
Corn meal -	-	-	12,377	10,020		2,357		
Corn	-	-	10,779	8,637		2,142		
Oleomargarine	-	-	3,532	4,353	821	_		
Pork	_	-	17,231	17,107		124		
Lumber -	-	-	14,186	7,964	_	6,222		
Oilmeal and cake		-	8,953	6,240	_	2,713		
Shooks -	-	-	4,319	2,157	Line Town	2,162		
Total	-		136,885	113,519	821	24,187		

Or a net decrease of 23,366l. on the year.

EXPORTS.

By way of illustrating the effect that the low prices of our staple products had on the several Presidencies, I give in the following table a statement of the quantity and value of the principal articles

of export during 1894 and 1895.

From these figures it will be noticed that, although there was but a difference of 4,567 tons between the exports of sugar in 1894 and 1895, the value was reduced by 172,148*l*., or rather under one-half. Owing to a better crop, the exports of limes and lime-juice were increased in value in 1895 by 7,315*l*., or over one-third. With regard to lime-juice the figures are sometimes misleading, as this product is often shipped from Montserrat about the end of the year, so that a ship may clear early in January and the crop is credited to the following year, and it may happen that next year's crop is cleared in December, so that two crops may go into one year, while some years may have none.

TABLE E.

		189	94.	1895.		
Articles.		Exports.	Value.	Exports.	Value.	
			£		£	
Sugar, tons	-	32,155	345,800	27,588	173,652	
Molasses, puns. of 100 galls.		10,690	30,101	8,436	23,290	
Rum, galls.		42,864	1,724	62,395	2,788	
Cocoa, lbs		635,478	8,655	617,836	8,444	
Limes and lime-juice -			12,284	-	19,599	
Total			398,564		227,773	

In addition to the above five principal articles of export, the Colony also shipped, exclusive of internal trade, the following minor products, of the following values:-

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					£
Animals -			-	-	2,973
Fruit and vegetal	oles	-	-	-	3,055
Salt -	- British W	- 375		-	1,381
Starches -		-	-		474
Bay leaves	-	-		-	2,979
Charcoal and fire	wood	-	-1 -	-	1,177
Dye woods	-	-	-	-	12,223
Hides and skins		-		-	673
Essential oils and	essences	-	-/	-	3,325

The internal trade of the Colony also represented a value of 11,293l.; and of other exports, which may be regarded as being reshipments of imports, the value was 49,079l.

The increase on amount of dye woods was due to the discovery of a large quantity of mature logwood in the bush lands of Antigua. This discovery being made when there was a brisk demand for logwood led to a large business being done.

Slightly over one-half of our trade was, as usual, with the United States of America. The neighbouring French Colonies received to the value of 10,842l., of which molasses for the manufacture of spirits represented 732l.

The tollowing table gives a comparative return of the values of the total exports for 1894 and 1895 :-

		189	94.		18	1895.		
		Produce of Colony.	Other Exports.	Total.	Produce of Colony.	Other Exports.	Total.	
United Kingdom		£ 30,613	£ 2,066	£ 32,679	£ 47,432	£ 1,276	£ 48,708	
British North America -		61,245	120	61,365	52,165	176	52,341	
Other British Colonies -	-	2,185	11,446	13,631	2,928	751	3,679	
		94,043	13,632	107,675	102,525	2,203	104,728	
United States of America	-	305,023	725	305,748	141,855	971	142,826	
Other Foreign Colonies -		15,248	10,877	26,125	13,275	6,992	20,267	
		414,314	25,234	439,548	257,655	10,166	267,821	
Internal Trade		10,710	14,671	25,381	9,040	11,293	20,333	
Total		425,024	39,905	464,929	266,695	21,459	288,154	
					T .			

Within the past two or three years the trade in Muscovado sugar with British North America is being steadily pushed forward by the commercial agents of that country, in 1893 the exports of this article were only 2,020 tons, while the shipments this year have risen to 4,139 as compared with 4,000 in 1894.

SHIPPING.

In the accompanying tables I give the particulars of the entries and clearances of shipping in the Colony during the years 1894 and 1895:—

Entered 1894.

British	or I	Foreig	gn.	Steam	Tonnage entered.			
British			-	Steam	-	4	-	869,881
,,	-		-	Sailing	-	-	-	44,679
Foreign	-	-		Steam	-	-	-	1,007
,,	-	-	-	Sailing	-	-	-	25,585
								941,152

Cleared 1894.

British	or E	oreig	n.	Steam	Tonnage cleared.			
British	-	•		Steam	• /		-	870,141
,,	1	-	-	Sailing	•	-	•	44,665
Foreign	-	-	-	Steam	-	•		1,007
,,			-	Sailing	-		-	25,718
								941,531

Entered 1895.

British or I	Foreig	gn.	Steam	Steam or Sailing.				
British -	-	•	Steam	-		-	797,816	
" -			Sailing	-		-	37,548	
Foreign -	-	•	Steam	- 1		-	3,937	
" -			Sailing			-	23,930	
							863,281	

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British or Foreign.				Steam	Steam or Sailing.						
British	-		-	Steam			-	797,816			
"			-	Sailing	-	-	-	37,238			
Foreign	-	-		Steam	4	-	-	3,937			
,,		-		Sailing	-	-	-	23,847			
								862,838			

The direction of the trade during 1895 was as follows:—

1895.

Tonnage entered from			Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
United Kingdom	10			2,130	2,130
British Colonies -		-	14,259	15,204	29,463
United States -		-	6,710	4,384	11,094
Foreign Ports -		- 1	283,356	21,798	305,334
Internal trade -			497,428	17,782	515,210
Total -		-	801,753	61,478	863,231

1895.

Tonnage cle	ared for		Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
United Kingdom		-	2,322	3,289	5,611
British Colonies -		-	32,324	8,928	41,252
United States -		-	4,300	4,760	9,060
Foreign Ports -		-	310,888	28,193	337,081
Internal trade -	QL A	-	451,919	17,915	469,834
Total -		-	801,753	61,085	862,838

It is necessary to explain with respect to the above return that steam vessels arriving from the United States of America invariably call at one or other of the neighbouring foreign islands before arriving at any of the islands of this Colony, and that vessels so arriving are entered as from the last port; these vessels in like manner usually clear for either St. Thomas or St. Croix on their homeward voyage to America.

GRANTS OF LAND.

Antiqua.

The Crown lands in Antigua are as follows:-

2,200 acres Piccadilly, Savannah, and Red Hill

300 The Ridge Lands

(These are situated by English Harbour in the parish of St. Paul's.)

416 acres Wallings 280 Sawcolts -

(These are situated in the hills on the south of the Island and as they form the watersheds from which the supply of water for the town is drawn should be afforested.)

This is used by the reformatory and stock Skerretts 600 acres. The hills here on the north should be afforested, which

work could well be done by the boys.

The pasture to the east of the town from East Street to a line running north and south from the Parham road to Ottos boundary along the east fence of the hospital, including the lands used by the hospital, gaol, cricket-field, and park. These I believe to be Crown lands proper, Act No. 27 dated 1771.

Queen's pasture 180 acres; a portion of land from Body Ponds to Constitution Hill near All Saints. This is land acquired under

Act No. 10 and reverted under section 5.

Lands at Fort James, 25 acres under Act No. 18.

The Tennis grounds, Act No. 97.

The old Holberton hospital lands, Acts No. 67, 126, 129.

Lands of Colonial Secretary's office, Act No. 159.

There are also lands around the various forts all round the

The only portions of the lands which are rented are portions of the Piccadilly Estate, rented out in 1-acre lots, but the persons renting these are very poor and there is great difficulty in collecting even the 5s. per half-year.

The whole island of Barbuda, 89,949 acres. This, with the exception of the village and certain lands for use of the villagers,

is leased to the Barbuda Island Company.

The whole island of Redonda. This is leased to a company in England for the extraction and shipment of phosphates.

St. Kitts.

No reliable information as to Crown lands.

Nevis.

No reliable information.

Anguilla.

There is an estate here purchased by the late Governor, Sir W. F. Haynes-Smith, for the Government to grow sisal.

Virgin Islands.

No reliable information as to Crown lands in these Islands.

LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

Montserrat.

None.

Dominica.

Here there are large tracts of Crown lands, the sale of which, if they were more accessible, would be a source of revenue; but from the want of roads they are difficult of access, so that only small purchasers buy them.

PRISONERS AND GAOLS.

tal of	
-	2,023
of	
-	1,533
-	363
-	6
1-	44
-	77
	2,023
	tal of - of -

1,265 of these committed were males, 734 females, and 24 juveniles.

On comparing the returns shown by the following two tables it will be observed that there was a marked increase in the number comm tted for non-payment of fines. An increase appears indeed under each head.

				Na	nt.			
			By Superior Courts.	Peremptory Imprison- ment.	For Non- payment of Fines.	One previous Conviction.	Two previous Convictions.	Three or more previous Convictions
1894			33	361	1,326	277	155	390
1895	30 to		44	363	1,533	372	172	432
Increase	in 1895	•.	11	2	207	95	17	42
Decreas	e in 1895		_		-	-	_	200

TERM of IMPRISONMENT.

		Five Years or more.	One Year or more, less than Five.	More than Three Months and under One Year.	For Three Months or less.
1894	-	3	25	80	1,612
1895		6	22	65	1,845
Increase in 1895		3		_	233
Decrease in 1895		-	3	15	

With the increased number in the prison the admissions to hospital show an increase from 71 to 87, but the returns show that the daily average on the sick list was 3.22 below 1894, while the deaths in gaol were 2 against 1 in the previous year. The daily average in prison was 165.

The following table classifies the offences which were brought before the courts in the various Presidencies of the Colony:--

Island.		Year.	Total No. of Offences.	Assaults and other Offences against the Person.	Malicious Injury to Property.	Prædial Larceny by Boys under 16.	Against Property other than malicious Injury and PrædialLarceny.	Against Revenue, Highway, Health, and Acts relating to Social Economy.	Against Master and Servants Acts.	Other Offences.
Antigua -	ſ	1894	2,013	537	15	135	121	196	214	795
ARtigua	·i	1895	1,854	536	12	229	164	193	118	602
St. Kitts-Nevis	ſ	1894	3,595	584	24	172	570	87	58	2,100
St. Mitts-Nevis	- {	1895	2,585	448	17	141	459	392	50	1,078
Dominica -	-1	1894	2,457	174	29	119	99	1,632	12	392
	1	1895	2,540	125	11	138	179	1,780	6	301
Montserrat -	ſ	1894	467	98	3	40	78	44	17	187
THORISCITAL •	-1	1895	404	96	3	26	37	26	3	213
Virgin Islands		1894	50	19	1	2	4	6		18
A HEIT TOWNER	- {	1895	45	15	_	1	7	2	_	20

The total number of cases dealt with in the magistrates' courts during the year was 17,646; of these 6,139 were discharged for want of prosecution or evidence, 3,743 were dismissed, there were 7,428 summary convictions, 78 committals to the superior courts, and 277 remained untried in the magistrates' courts.

Legislation.

Only one Act of the General Legislature became law during the year 1895, namely, a formal Act substituting the title of Administrator for those of President and Commissioner in the Presidencies of Saint Christopher-Nevis and Dominica. This Act was passed on the 30th May at a special session held for the purpose. Another session of the Council was held on the 12th December and following days, when various other Bills were passed. These Bills did not, however, become law until after the close of the year, and do not therefore appear as Acts of 1895.

In Antigua, a Smuggling Act, Acts to provide for the improvement of the City of St. John, to render compulsory the notification of infectious diseases, and to provide for the raising of a loan of 20,000l. by the issue of Treasury debentures, were the principal measures passed during the year.

In St. Kitts-Nevis, in view of the distress caused by the depression in trade, an Ordinance was passed suspending the collection, during the year 1895, of the land tax, the parochial tax, the statistical tax, and the water tax, and granting to general revenue, to make up the deficit thus caused, the amount standing in the Treasury Books for some years past to the credit of a special Immigration Fund.

In Dominica the most important Act passed was one to amend the Constitution Acts by providing that the Legislative Assembly shall consist of seven nominated members, of whom three shall be officials and four unofficials, and seven elected members, and of the Attorney-General, who shall be a member ex officio; provided that when the latter officer shall be present, only two other official members shall sit.

The Excise and Liquor License laws were also amended.

In Montserrat an Ordinance providing for the raising of a loan of 5,000l by the issue of Treasury debentures was passed.

Hospitals and Asylums.

On the 1st January 1895, the number of persons in the hospitals of the Colony, exclusive of those in the Yaws Hospital in Dominica, was 409, and the admissions during the year were 2,898, so that the cases treated numbered 3,307. Of these 1,314 were discharged as being cured, and 1,165 as relieved, and the deaths were 448.

The following table gives the particulars relating to each hospital in the Colony:—

Hospital.		In the Hospital on 1st Jan. 1895.	Admissions.	Discharged as cured.	Discharged as relieved.	Deaths.
Antigua	-	116	1,328	223	839	251
S.K. Cunningham		168	918	634	185	101
" Pogson .		31	299	173	61	34
Nevis		32	83	43	18	29
Dominica		25	291	208	53	41
Montserrat		62	56	33	4	13
Virgin Islands .	-	15	12	-	5	4
Total		449	2,987	1,314	1,165	448

On comparing the above figures with the returns of the previous year, it will be observed that the number of cases treated during the year were 12 less; the per-centages of those discharged as cured in 1894 and 1895 were respectively 41.6 and 49.4,

Yaws Hospital.

The returns relating to the Yaws Hospital in Dominica show that there were 78 cases treated in 1895, as against 127 in the previous year, and that the number cured was 54 as against 105. This hospital has since been closed.

Lunatic Asylums.

At the Rat Island Asylum 32 patients were admitted, as against 42 in 1894; 17 were discharged as cured or relieved, against 22 in the previous year, and the deaths were, in 1895, 12, against 16 in 1894. The staff of resident servants was increased in 1894 by 11; much improvement has also be made with respect to the general treatment of lunatics by the institution being provided with the services of a warder and nurse who had been trained in a European asylum.

At the Ridge the admissions were 12, the discharges as cured 4, and the deaths 3, the daily average being the same as last year in this asylum, which is occupied by such lunatics as are either non-violent or show signs of being cured. The building is situated at a good elevation, and is on the site of the barracks formerly used by European troops. It is under the immediate supervision of the district medical officer, who daily visits the institution.

Leper Asylums

The asylum in Antigua, which may be regarded more as a home for such lepers as are very poor or have no relatives able or willing to support them, is conducted on a very primitive and

inexpensive plan, and is limited as to accommodation; the admissions during the year were 6, and the deaths 4.

In the St. Kitts Asylum the admissions during 1895 were 5; and the number of deaths was the same, one of the deaths being that of a child born in the Asylum.

Savings Banks.

The returns for 1895 show that the deposits during the year were 23,691*l.*, and the withdrawals 23,784*l.*, and that the amount of deposits and investments were respectively decreased by 321*l.* and 1,066*l.* The number of depositors decreased in the Presidencies of Antigua, St. Kitts-Nevis, and Montserrat by 2,236, and increased in Dominica by 17, leaving a net decrease for the Colony of 2,219.

POST OFFICES AND TELEPHONES.

Post Offices.

The improvements made in recent years in postal arrangements, together with the advancement of education in primary schools, are being evinced by the annually increasing number of letters and papers which pass through the post offices of the Colony; a comparison of the figures for the two years shows the increase to have been as shown by the following table:—

1894.

				Letters and Cards.		Papers and Books.		Parcel Post.		Total.	
				Received from	Despatched to	Received from	Despatched to	Received from	Despatched to	Received from	Despatched to
United Kingdom			-	51,878	45,869	89,134	10,520	4,390	806	145,402	57,195
United States -	-		-	20,437	17,245	23,519	2,079	190	54	52,146	19,378
Other places -	-		-	139,961	135,276	27,891	23,433	854	423	168,706	159,132
Total -	•			220,276	198,390	140,544	36,032	5,434	1,283	366,254	235,705
						1895.					, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
United Kingdom			-	49,467	46,183	76,685	9,737	4,105	733	130,257	56,653
United States -			-	26,858	16,157	25,076	2,303	159	53	52,093	18,513
Other places -			-	146,866	140,555	36,995	22,577	789	329	184,650	163,461
Total -		-	-	223,191	202,895	138,756	34,617	5,053	1,115	367,000	238,627

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Telephones.

In 1895 the supervision of the system in Antigua was transferred to a telephone Board. This resulted in increased efficiency and decreased expenditure. The expenditure in Antigua was as follows:—

1893.	1894.	1895.	
£	£	£	
£ 1,113	£ 1,466	£ 1,134 ·	

The expenditure in 1895, however, includes a sum of 3521, for supplies obtained in 1893 and 1894 and properly chargeable to these years.

<u> </u>		Instruments in Use.	Miles of Wire.	No. of Calls.
Antigua 1894	-	144	345	205,364
,, 1895	-	158	280	248,577
Increase		14		43,213
Decrease	-	-	65	

GENERAL REMARKS.

A most marked falling off in the trade of the Colony is again to be noted this year, the total value of exports and imports being 213,199l. less than in 1894, a year in which there was a great deficiency.

Several causes led to this result, but the chief two were undoubtedly the excessive drought experienced throughout the Colony, but with most severe effect in Antigua in 1894, leading to a disastrously small sugar crop in 1895. At the same time that the crops were so small, prices were unusually low. It is probable that sugar has never realised lower prices for a prolonged period than it did during this year; and as over 80 per cent. of the export trade of the Leeward Islands consists of sugar and sugar products, it will be seen how wide-reaching must have been the effects of the sugar depression. In 1894 there was a considerable fall in the value of sugar and molasses exported, but in 1895 there was a further fall of 108,1131. when compared

This fall in the value of exports naturally led to a corresponding decline in imports; no new machinery was imported and the importation of artificial manures was much restricted. the sugar estates every possible economy was practised and the

expenditure was limited to mere cultivation and manufacture

only

The discovery in Antigua of a quantity of mature logwood resulted in shipments to the value of 12,225*l.*, and this did much to relieve the distress of the peasantry, who were largely employed in the industry.

The harbour works made satisfactory progress; the channel was cut through the bar, and the dredging of the inner channel

and basin proceeded with.

In the months of September and October in particular, Antigua suffered much from the loss of an unusual number of prominent inhabitants, most of whom fell victims to an outbreak of fever during these months.

More attention has since been paid to sanitary matters, especially in the city of St. John, and improvements have been effected, but very much more remains to be done, and it is hoped that

progress will be steadily maintained.

Governor Sir W. F. Haynes Smith left the Colony on the 6th March, and was succeeded by Governor Sir Francis Fleming on the 27th of the same month.

Antigua, 8th April 1897. GEO. MELVILLE, Colonial Secretary LEEWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 196.

MALTA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 172.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

July 1897.



LONDON: PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE, BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,

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1897.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.				Year.
169	Zululand				1895
170	Sierra Leone		- 1	-	"
171	Gibraltar			-	"
172	Malta		· ·	-	"
173	Barbados	•	•	4. •	"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands		•	•	"
175	Falkland Islands	•	-	-	"
176	St. Helena	•	-	-	"
177	Bahamas	-		-	,,,
178	Hong Kong	•		-	"
179	Windward Islands -	•	- 72		,,
180	Labuan			-	99
181	Trinidad and Tobago -		•	-	,,
182	Seychelles			-	,,
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues -		•		1894 and
184	British Honduras -			-	1895
185	Lagos		-	-	"
186	Basutoland	10.5	THE R	To Tax	1895-96
187	Ceylon	•		-	1895
188	British Guiana	- 1		-	1895-90
189	Gold Coast	•		•	1895
190	Jamaica	•	-	-	1895-96
191	Canada			-	1895
192	Bermuda		-	-	1896
193	Bahamas	- V	-	-	"
194	Zuiuland	60 ·	1.5	•	"
195	Gambia			-	27

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.			Subject.
1	Gold Coast -			Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -		v 113-79	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone		nie San	Geology and Botany.
	Canada -	-		Emigration.
4 5	Bahamas -		-	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong			Bubonic Plague.
6	Newfoundland	yu.	77 - 14	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	•		Solomon Islands.

No. 196.

MALTA.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 172 of this Series.)

MALTA. 1896.

GOVERNOR SIR A. J. LYON FREMANTLE to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Sir, The Palace, Valletta, May 31, 1897.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, for your information, the Chief Secretary's Report on the Blue Book for the year 1896.

2. The printing of the Blue Book will soon be completed, and copies will be transmitted to you at the earliest opportunity.

I have, &c.

ARTHUR LYON FREMANTLE, Governor.

Chief Secretary's Office, Valletta, May 25, 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Malta Blue Book for the year 1896.

FINANCES.

Revenue.

The revenue collected from all sources during 1896 amounted to 313,680l. 14s. 7d., an increase of 8,240l. 0s. $3\frac{1}{4}d$. over the revenue of 1895, which was also larger than that collected in any previous year.

The following table shows the receipts under each head of revenue for the year 1896 compared with those collected in

1895:-

Heads of Revenue.	1896.	1895.	Increase.	Decrease.
Customs	£ s. d		£ s. d.	£_s. d
Harbour and Quarantine Dues -	8,270 5	8,905 14 2	-0.02	635 9 2
Licences, Court fines, &c.	5,633 18	5,605 5 5	28 12 74	the Carrie
Fees and Reimbursements -	21,155 9	22,623 1 42	-	1,467 12 4
Post Office	13,233 6	13,337 17 9	_	104 11 0
Railway	7,020 16	5,963 2 0	1,057 14 3	
Water Service	9,006 14	8,316 19 9	689 14 101	Comments.
Electric Lighting	346 17	1 1 50 - 1 5 LO	346 17 3	ENT - TYE
Rents, rural	13,308 2 9	13,368 9 10	1 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	60 7 0
Rents, urban	27,713 3 4	27,233 16 6	479 6 103	-
Rents on account of charitable institutions.	4,042 7 6	3,980 17 92	61 9 9	
Interest	27,492 7 8	27,376 6 03	116 1 8	-
Total	313,680 14 7	305,440 14 34	10,507 19 10	2,267 19 6
Increase		The Target	8,240 0 31	

o 98010. Wt. 20408.

4

MALTA. 1896. From the above it will be seen that the items of revenue which contributed principally to the increase were:—(a) Customs, (b) Railway, (c) Water Service, (d) Electric Lighting, (e) Urban Rents, and (f) Interest; and that decrease of revenue occurred under heads (a) Harbour and Quarantine Dues, (b) Fees and Reimbursements, (c) Post Office, and (d) Rural Rents.

The revenue, as compared with the forecast estimate for the year, shows a decrease of 8,162l. 5s. 5d. This decrease was caused by the fact that the contemplated schemes for making the pilots and the public weighers salaried Government servants, and thereby collecting such fees for the credit of public revenue, were not approved by the Council of Government, and were not,

therefore, carried into execution.

The increase in the Customs receipts (a) was due in a small part to a larger consumption of wines, spirits, and beer, and in a large extent to an expansion of the import duties on cattle, chiefly consequent to larger number of cattle introduced, and to the fact that under Ordinance No. 1 of 1896 the duty on cattle declared to have been imported for the use of the Military and Naval Departments became payable before the animals passed through the Customs, whilst in previous years such payments of duty used to be suspended. As a matter of fact the increase of revenue under this latter item must, to a great extent, be counterbalanced by a larger expenditure under drawbacks. It is to be noticed, on the other hand, that the import duties on grain suffered last year an appreciable reduction owing to a lessened importation of wheat, which is being supplanted by a larger introduction of flour.

The receipts of the Railway Department (b) continue to show considerable expansion, owing especially to greater traffic in consequence of the now fully occupied military barracks at "Imtarfa." There is every prospect that when the extension of the line to "Imtarfa" is completed the returns under this head will be even larger than at present. The following figures show

the revenue of the railway for the last three years :--

				£	s.	d.
In 1894	-	-		5,603	17	0
,, 1895				5,963	2	()
" 1896	-		11 1/4	7,020	16	3

The water service (c), which is another undertaking yielding revenue, realised an increase of 689l. 14s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$. The revenue under this head tends steadily to increase as householders and the general public become alive to the importance of having at their command pure and wholesome water. It has repeatedly been stated that, looking at the large capital laid out on the waterworks and the yearly increasing expenditure for the improvement of the water supply, it is not possible for this municipal enterprise to become commercially remunerative. But it is, at any rate, gratifying to note that the receipts accruing on account of water

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COLONIAL REPORTS .- ANNUAL.

supplied and meter rent are progressively expanding, as shown by the following figures —

MALTA. 1896.

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					£	S.	d.
In	1894	_	-		5,849	13	91
,,	1895		-		6,701	3	10
"	1896	-		1	7,442	7	ò

A new item of revenue appears for the first time in the last year's revenue accounts for electric lighting (d). The installation was only partially put into operation on the 1st December, and the amount received as revenue represents only half a month's proportion of the expense hitherto incurred for street lighting by gas. Before the whole installation is in complete working order, and the supply of electricity extended to military barracks and public buildings, it would be premature to offer any remarks as to the financial bearing of this municipal undertaking.

In dealing with the subject of the revenue derivable from the landed estate of the Government (e) it was stated in former reports that the letting value of the immovable property administered by the Government had almost reached its maximum, and that there was apparently little room for its further expansion, whilst the Government must be prepared to expect a further diminution of the revenue from agricultural lettings. The urban property still holds steadily to its present market value, but the rural lettings are gradually tending towards a reduced rental, as will be seen from the following figures:-

				Urban Prop	erty.	Rural P	roperty.
In 1894				£ s. 27,429 3	0.034	£ 13,496	s. d. 16 1 ¹ / ₄
" 1895 -	€/ 12• [.		-	27,233 16	6	13,368	9 10
,, 1896			-	27,713 3	$4\frac{3}{4}$	13,308	$2 9\frac{1}{4}$

The small increase under Interest (f) is due to a new item of revenue derived from the interest payable on sums advanced for electric lighting installation, and to a larger profit on the savings bank transactions. On the other hand, other items under this head of revenue have yielded a smaller return than in the previous year, owing chiefly to the sale of consols and to the repayment of part of the Monte Loan.

The decreases shown in the foregoing comparative statement are accounted for as follows:-

The decrease under Harbour and Quarantine Dues (a) is attributable to the decreasing number of arrivals of steam vessels

MALTA. 1896. in our harbours. The following are the amounts derived from tonnage dues in the last three years:—

						£	8.	d.
In	1894		-	14 146	-	8,326	19	9
,,	1895	-			-	7,685	7	3
**	1896		-	N -	-	6,955	19	6

The decrease of 1,467l. 12s. 4d., under the head of Fees and Reimbursements (b) was chiefly caused by smaller returns against the items of store rent and wages of revenue guards in the Customs department, consequent to the falling off of trade generally during the year; to a reduced proportion in the receipts of fees in the Superior Court, which depend on the number of cases brought before the Court; and to a decrease of certain services in the military and civil abattoirs. The other items under this head of revenue have, however, kept up to the normal standard, and indeed some of them, such as fees for treatment in hospitals and public registry fees, gave larger returns than in the preceding year.

The Post Office revenue was less than that of 1895 by 104l. 11s.; but, as a matter of fact, the chief item, which is that of sale of stamps, gave a return larger than that of the previous year by 1,392l. 17s. $10\frac{1}{2}d$. The apparent diminution on the whole revenue of the department was caused by the fact that in 1895, arrear transit rates had been received from foreign postal departments, which had the effect of swelling the revenue of that year to more than its normal proportion. Setting aside this circumstance, it may safely be asserted that the postal department, although it does not yet entirely repay its cost, is steadily earning a revenue which it may be hoped will before long make it entirely self-supporting, as may be gleaned from the following figures:—

			£	S.	d.
In 1894	-	-	11,685	1	11
,, 1895		-	13,337	17	9
,, 1896		-	13,233	6	9

The cause of the diminution of revenue from Rural Rents (d) has been commented upon in former reports. The general agricultural depression has undergone no improvement, and there are no perceptible prospects so far of any immediate improvement.

Expenditure.

The provisions voted for expenditure by the Council, or granted by special authority of the head of the Government, out of the revenue of 1896, amounted in the aggregate to 361,341l. 12s. 6d., viz.:—

MALTA. 1896.

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					£	s.	d.
For personal emolur	nents -		-		132,877		
For other charges	1- 40	-		-	228,463	15	0
	Total		-		361,341	12	6

The amount actually expended was 308,902l. 14s. $4\frac{3}{4}d$., or 4,778l. 0s. $2\frac{1}{4}d$. less than the revenue of the year, and 52,438l. 18s. $1\frac{1}{4}d$. below the total amount of the provisions taken. The following return gives a detail of the expenditure incurred by each department in 1896, compared with that of the preceding year:—

Heads of Expenditure.	1896.	1895.	Increase.	Decrease.
Charges on account of interest and burthens.	£ s. d. 19,544 15 7‡	£ s. d. 20,126 3 10	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 581 8 2
Pensions	15,952 16 9	15,399 4 5	553 12 4	Algeria, a
The Governor and Legislature -	5,167 17 4	4,752 2 10	415 14 6	-
Chief Secretary's Department -	4,239 16 8	4,134 9 5	105 7 3	14 3 -
Receiver-General and Director of Contracts. Customs and Port Department -	2,939 7 11 10,821 5 0	2,890 4 3 10,674 16 3	49 3 8 146 8 9	1 -
Audit Department	1,648 11 3	1,617 19 3	30 12 0	-
Printing Office	1,144 5 4	1,138 18 1	5 7 3	_
Railway Department	5,656 0 4	5,745 19 8	- 1	89 19 4
Railway Department, special expenditure.	1,100 17 9	1,942 16 0		841 18 3
Legal Department	19,530 3 6	18,605 2 1	925 1 5	-
Police	38,709 5 5	37,897 2 0	812 3 5	1907 - 10
Public Health Department -	11,135 11 6	10,887 13 111	247 17 61	
Prisons	3,720 14 8	3,637 14 2	83 0 6	-
Charitable Institutions, including the Monte di Pietà.	42,403 18 53	41,191 16 3	1,212 2 23	
Education	21,756 19 1	21,414 9 8	342 9 5	-
Post Office	12,700 19 3	13,737 11 5		1,036 12 2
Ecclesiastical expenditure -	713 12 8	1,240 0 2		526 7 6
Military expenditure	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	-	-
Miscellaneous services	9,748 8 61	10,628 17 81		880 9 2
Superintendent of Works Dept.	5,519 17 9	6,196 16 6		676 18 9
Waterworks and Electric Light-	12,753 19 6	-	12,753 19 6	1 . U = 3n
ing Department. Public Works recurrent -	40,987 13 63	49,200 17 91		8,213 4 2
Public Works extraordinary -	16,005 16 61	13,490 1 1	2,515 15 51	- 18
Total	308,902 14 44	301,550 16 91	20,198 15 23	12,846 17 7
Increase			7,351 17 71	

MALTA. 1896. The comparative yearly expenditure of this Government for the last three years is given in the following table:—

Year.			Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.	
1894			£ s. d. 112,965 0 6	£ s. d. 178,717 1 10	£ s. d. 291,682 2 4	
1895 -		•	118,607 1 2	182,943 15 71	301,550 16 9	
1896	- 50	-	123,091 18 7	185,810 15 93	308,902 14 4	

It is well to preface the remarks on the expenditure of 1896, by noting that during the year a new sub-department of "Waterworks and Electric Lighting" was installed, and that the expenditure connected with that sub-department was segregated and accounted for separately from that of the Public Works Department. The total amount of such expenditure was 12,753l. 19s. 6d., which, excluding the new item of expense on account of the electric lighting, carried with it a proportionate reduction in the expenditure of the Public Works Department under heads of service Nos. 19 and 20.

Independently of the above fact, the heads of service under which an appreciable increase of expenditure was incurred in 1896 are the following:—(a) Pensions; (b) The Governor and Legislature; (c) Legal Department; (d) Police; (e) Public Health Department; (f) Charitable Institutions; (g) Education; and (h) Public Works Extraordinary.

The circumstances which chiefly gave rise to an augmented expenditure under the above enumerated heads of service, were in each case the following:—

(a) The large number of pensions awarded during the year; (b) the fact that the unofficial members of the Executive Council were only appointed in February 1896, the places having been vacant in 1895, and increases of salaries to the stenographers; (c) the large number of cases in the Criminal Court and Courts of Judicial Police; (d) the supply of new helmets and belts to the police force; (e) the employment of an additional quarantine medical officer, and increased expenditure for transport; (g) the increase of salaries to assistant teachers of the primary schools, and establishment of several night schools; and (f) the cost of the charitable institutions, for the maintenance of which a large part of the public revenue is annually appropriated, which in 1896 amounted to 42,403l. 18s. $5\frac{3}{4}d$., or 1,212l. 2s. $2\frac{3}{4}d$. in excess of that of the proceeding year. This increased expenditure was caused by the issue of a larger quantity of provisions and clothing and bedding materials in the hospitals as compared with last year.

The following figures show the total expenditure for the charitable institutions in the last three years:—

MALTA 1896.

			£	s.	d.
In 1894	toro e na	3/5/-	42,341	3	5
In 1895	Lips Francis	ulti.	41,191	16	3
In 1896	-		42,403	18	$5\frac{3}{4}$

With reference to Public Works extraordinary (h) the increase of the expenditure depended on a greater quantity of works performed during the year.

The heads of service on account of which the expenditure incurred was below that of the preceding year were the following:—(a) Interest and Burthens; (b) Railway, including special expenditure; (c) Post Office; (d) Ecclesiastical Department; (e) Miscellaneous Services; and (f) Public Works Department and Recurrent Works.

Such diminution of expenditure was due, as regards (a) Interest and Burthens—to unclaimed capitals of the Massa Frumentaria, the sale of consols on account of Savings Bank, and the termination of the annual instalment on account of Reserve Fund A.; (b) Railway—to the fact that only a portion of the cost of locomotive No. 8 was paid during the year; (c) Post Office—to the non-payment of the transit rates due to foreign postal departments; (d) Ecclesiastical—to the suppression of the salary of the Chaplain to Government; (e) Miscellaneous—to diminished expenditure on certain items of a fluctuating nature, and the absence in 1896 of other special expenditure as compared with the requirements of the preceding year.

The decreased expenditure for the staff of the Public Works Department and for Recurrent Works (f) was caused, as already stated, by the separation of the accounts of the branch of the water works and electric lighting from those of this department. Irrespectively of the above circumstance, the expenditure on public works, exclusive of the staff, was during the year as follows:—

			£	s.	d.
Annually recurrent	-		40,987	13	63
Extraordinary works	- 1	word.	16,005	16	$6\frac{1}{2}$
Total -			56,993	10	11/4

Among the several items of expenditure for extraordinary public works, exclusive of those the cost of which was defrayed out of the Immovable Property Fund, the following are the most important, viz.:—

MALTA. 1896.

Best transfer with that sale makes	£	8.	d.
1. Towards constructing a new			
abattoir	2,692	8	8
2. Remodelling and constructing			
roads, streets, moles and bridges	2,174	15	9
3. Water works (exclusive of main-			
tenance)	6,940	14	11
4. Drainage works (exclusive of			
maintenance)	955		
5. Improving property	1,116	4	4
6. Towards constructing an asylum			
for lepers	369	5	4
7. Improving palaces, public build-			
ings, offices, and schools -	783	1	$6\frac{1}{2}$
AND THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF			0.1
Total	15,031	19	$8\frac{1}{2}$

During the year under review, the following were the provisions voted under Ordinance V. of 1891, chargeable to the immovable property account for the works hereunder stated, viz.:—

	£	S.	d.
Railway extension from Notabile to Imtarfa Improving central station at Ham-	15,000	0	0
run and extending railway technical school Cost of site and erection of a school	500	0	0
house at Cospicua	6,000	0	0
Total	21,500	0	0

Out of the above votes and the balances carried forward from the provisions taken in the previous years under the said ordinance, the items of expenditure incurred in 1896 were:—

the recting of experience			
	£	s.	d.
Railway works	5,103	9	4
Establishment of lighting by elec-			
tricity	19,808	19	1 1/2
Improvement of property yielding		10	10
rent -	155	18	10
Building court house, police station, and dispensary at Casal Zeitun -	519	17	11
Building new school house at	010		
Rabato	211	5	1
Building school at Victoria, Gozo -	9	4	8
Total	25,808	14	$11\frac{1}{2}$

leaving an unexpended balance of 31,884l. 7s. 11\frac{3}{4}d. standing to the credit of the works voted out of this fund in the various estimates.

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COLONIAL REPORTS. -ANNUAL.

The balance standing to the credit of the Immovable Property Account (both Government and Pious Foundations) on the

31st December 1896 was 8,842l. 15s. 31d.

Before concluding, I may state, in connexion with the Public Works Department, that a redistribution of the stores of that department was made during the year under review, separating those to be appropriated for the water works and electric lighting from the general stock of the public works. The relative value represented by the stores on charge on the 31st December 1896, was:—

 Public works
 1,035
 8
 $2\frac{1}{2}$

 Water works
 4,030
 19
 10

 Total
 5,066
 8
 $0\frac{1}{2}$

LEGISLATION.

The Council met on the 22nd January, and held 22 sittings between that date and the 18th December, when it was adjourned to the 17th February 1897.

Of the 10 Acts passed during the year, Ordinances Nos. I., II., III., IX., and X. are the only Acts which call for special notice.

Ordinance No. I. of 1896, being an Ordinance "To amend the Ordinance promulgated by Proclamation No. VIII. of 3rd "November 1837."

By this Ordinance, power is given to the Collector of Customs to levy, on account of the Government, instead of 10s. per head "on bullocks and other animals of the kind," established by Proclamation No. VIII. of 1837, a duty of 4s. per cantar (of 175 lbs.), and for every fraction of cantar, not inferior to one pound (of 16 ounces) in proportion, on each head of live cattle (bulls, oxen, and calves) imported into these islands; and a duty at the rate of 4s. per 175 lbs. on any live sheep (ram, ewe, wether or lamb) imported.

The operation of this Ordinance is limited to three years to be

reckoned from the 6th March 1896,

Ordinance No. II. of 1896, entitled an Ordinance "to im-"pose a duty on imported meat and to make provisions respecting "the importation thereof," empowers the Collector of Customs to levy on importation into these islands a duty of 10s. per cantar of 175 lbs. on all fresh, frozen, or preserved meat (beef or mutton)

with the exception of meat preserved by salt only.

Article 3 of the Ordinance establishes that no fresh or frozen meat will be allowed to be imported unless a certificate be produced by the importer, stating that no cattle disease of any sort was known to exist in the district where the animal was slaughtered, and that the animals were inspected by a qualified veterinary surgeon and were found in good health. The certificate is to be signed by the British Consular authority, and,

MALTA. 1896. 439

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MALTA. ,1896. where there be no such authority, by the proper Government officer or municipal authority of the district where the animal was slaughtered.

The Collector of Customs is also empowered by Art. 9 of the Ordinance to levy, on all kinds of preserved meat placed in deposit, a store rent of half per cent. ad valorem for every six

months payable in advance.

The amount of refund of duty payable by the Government of these islands to the Imperial Government on each and all head of live cattle or sheep disposed of by the Imperial authorities, is, in all cases, calculated on the amount of duty paid on such head of cattle or sheep as recorded in the records of the Custom House against the number assigned to each animal on its importation, and in accordance with the weight of the animal at the time when duty was paid thereon; and, in the case of imported meat, on the amount of duty paid on each piece of meat as recorded in the records of the Custom House against the number assigned to each piece on its importation.

Ordinance No. III. of 1896, "to abolish the office of syndic, "and to make some provisions relating to the courts and to the

" magistrates of judicial police for Malta."

By this Ordinance the office of syndic and the syndics' courts for the country districts of Malta are abolished, and the head of the Government is authorised to transfer, wholly or partly, to one or more officers, the administrative duties of the office of syndic in one or more country districts. The court of judicial police for Malta, as a court of criminal judicature, may sit in the country districts in certain criminal cases, and it may also exercise its jurisdiction in the said districts, as a court of criminal instruction, and, as a court of civil jurisdiction, the court of judicial police for Malta may likewise sit in each of the country districts for the hearing and the decision of civil cases within its competence.

At the end of Article 369 of the criminal laws, which provides that "all the proceedings of the courts of judicial police shall be "written in the Italian language," the following provision is added by the amending Ordinance: "Nevertheless, whenever the "only person accused or all the persons accused be British subjects, not being native or naturalised Maltese, the court may, on application from any one of the persons accused, permit that the oral proceedings in the cause be conducted in

" the English language."

This addition affords British subjects not domiciled in Malta, when summoned before the police court, the benefit of being able to follow all the proceedings in their case; they will understand what is said by their own counsel and by the witnesses for the prosecution or in the defence, and, when the sentence is given may learn the grounds upon which they have been sentenced or released in a language which they understand, viz., in English instead of Italian.

Ordinance No. IX. of 1896, being an Ordinance "for applying out of the general reserve fund a sum not exceeding 11,359%.

"to the service of the year 1897." This measure was passed to appropriate for the service of the financial year 1897 the following sums:—Towards the construction of an asylum for lepers, the sum of 2,000l., total cost of the asylum being estimated at 9,537l.; towards building an infirmary in the male division of the lunatic asylum, 1,600l., total cost 2,001l.; for constructing a basin for boats and other craft at Marsa, 3,419l.; 1,000l. towards the construction of a camber for boats near the Custom House, total cost being 4,708l.; 500l. towards the construction of a chapel in the asylum for aged and incurables, estimated cost 5,000l., and 1,840l. for constructing a quarantine establishment on Comino Island.

Ordinance No. X. of 1896, being an ordinance "to amend the provisions of Articles 427, 517, 518, 519, 520, 524, and 529 of the criminal laws." All these articles have reference to jurors

and to the procedure in trials by jury.

The principal alteration made by the amending Ordinance is that contained in Art. 524, which provides that, if the cause before the court should appear to be of such a nature as to require a long trial, the court may order, before the drawing of the jurors' names, the drawing of other three names; and the three jurors whose names shall have been the last to be drawn, shall be supplementary jurors, and shall attend at the trial of the cause; all the provisions of the law relating to the jury and to the jurors shall apply to them, but they shall not be present at any deliberation, nor shall they take any part therein, save in the case of the death or inability to continue to serve on the part of any one of the other jurors, in which case (the Court having decided as to the lawfulness of the cause of the inability) the substitution shall be made in the same order in which the names of the supplementary jurors may have been drawn.

In case of the death or incapacity to serve of the foreman, his duties shall be discharged by one of the remaining jurors to be

designated by the court.

The necessity of this Ordinance has long been felt, but it was made apparent and urgent by an incident that occurred in the trial of a case of murder before Her Majesty's Criminal Court in November last, when, after two days hearing of the case, two of the jurors fell suddenly ill; the jury had consequently to be discharged and the trial put off without any advantage to the accused and certainly with great prejudice to the interests of the administration of justice.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

The Hon. Major-General Henry Parnell, C.B. (now Lord Congleton) administered the Government during the absence on leave of his Excellency the Governor, from 18th August to the 24th September, and Major-General John Fletcher Owen, R.A., on the 30th October last.

MALTA. 1896. MALȚA. 1896. The Hon. F. Vella, C.M.G., acted as Chief Secretary to Government during the absence on leave of the Chief Secretary from 12th July to the 1st October, the ordinary duties of his office as Collector of Customs and Superintendent of the Ports having been performed by his deputy.

There were no changes of importance in the civil establishment

during the year.

POPULATION.

The population of Malta and Gozo was estimated by the Public Health Department at 176,231, as follows:—

Civil population on 1st January 1896 - 172,620

Increment in civil population, between 1st

January and 31st December 1896, due to
excess of births over deaths - 1,392

Excess in number of arrivals in Malta over

Excess in number of arrivals in Malta over departures - - 563

Members of the families of persons in military employment - - 1,656

Total on 31st December 1896 - 176,231

The population is distributed as follows.—

British subjects domiciled in Malta - 172,334

British subjects not born in Malta - 2,092

Foreigners - - - 1,805

176,231

The births, 6,440, (including the families of persons in military employment) during the year, were at the rate of 37 per 1,000 of the population; of the births 3,330 were males and 3,110 females.

4,906 deaths (still-born not included, but including deaths in families of persons in military employment) were registered, being in the proportion of 28 to each 1,000 of the estimated population,

against 25.41 in 1895, and showing an increase of 1,008.

There can be no doubt that the ordinary climatic condition of these islands is very favourable to health; but the sanitary condition calls for improvement; the drainage outside the fortified towns leaves much to be desired, and there are still portions of the drainage in the cities requiring some modifications in order to improve the sanitary condition of the harbours; but now that the Council has voted the necessary funds for a comprehensive scheme of drainage throughout the island and in Gozo, it is hoped that in proportion as the works are carried out, the sanitary condition of the Colony will be gradually improved.

The number of marriages registered during the year amounted to 1,022, showing an increase, compared with the previous year,

of 14.

SAVINGS BANK.

MALTA. 1896.

The returns for 1896 show that the deposits during the year were 115,545l., and the withdrawals 97,184l., and that the amount of deposits on the 31st December 1896 was 498,536l., an increase of 25,494l. over that of last year. The number of depositors increased in Malta and Gozo by 320 and 19, respectively. The expense of management and interest credited to depositors in 1896 amounted to 7,994l., while the revenue from interest on investments was 12,370l., showing a net profit of 4,376l. on the year's transactions.

EDUCATION.

The following return of the Educational Department, showing the average annual cost per student in average attendance, is calculated on the expenditure for the years 1894, 1895, and 1896. The figures, however, do not show the total expenditure per scholar; they only concern salaries, cost of administration, rent, minor works, and other charges for the maintenance of the schools in these islands, but do not include the sums which have been spent on building new schools or on making alterations or extraordinary repairs in existing schools.

en devente i pages. – Production – en de						Average Attendance.	Average cost per Student.		
CONTRACTOR ASSESSMENT	10		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
University -	-	-	3,689	4	0	132	27	18	111
Lyceum	-	-	2,993	1	6	447	6	13	
Secondary School, Malta	-	-	172	8	0	142	1	4	3
Secondary School, Gozo		-	240	0	0	48	5	0	0
Elementary day schools		-	13,976	0	6	10,195	1	7	5
Elementary night schools		-	729	5	6	966	0	15	1
Technical and manual sch	nools	-	160	5	6	13	12	6	7

Total average expenditure 21,960l. 5s., or about one-fourteenth of the average total revenue of the island for the last three

years.

The total expenditure in 1896 was 21,756l. 19s. 1d., of which 18,641l. 3s. 10d. personal emoluments and 3,115l. 15s. 3d. other charges; and 776l. 0s. 4d. being the income from students' fees, examination fees, &c., the difference, 20,980l. 18s. 9d., is, therefore, the net expenditure of the Education Department in 1896, being about one-fifteenth of the total revenue and over one-fourteenth of the total expenditure of the Colony for that year.

The number of elementary day schools remained the same as it

was in 1895, viz.:-

Boys', in	cluding	the	model	-	-	-	38
Girls'	"	"	,,	-		-	39
Infants'			• 1	-		-	5
Mixed in	fants'			-			17

MALTA. 1896. Four more night schools were opened in Malta and one in Gozo during the past year, making now a total of 25 schools in Malta and 4 in Gozo, attended by grown-up lads and young men of the working classes, who receive elementary instruction after their day's work.

The following schools in Malta are also maintained by the

Government, viz.:-

Five boys' day drawing schools;
Four ,, evening ,,
Four girls' day ,,
One wood-carving and modelling school, and
One Sunday school.

In addition to the above, and besides garrison schools and a dockyard school, there are 126 other private schools attended by 3,763 pupils in Malta and Gozo not receiving any aid from

Colonial funds.

The attendance in the elementary schools during the scholastic year 1895-96 is stated in the Vice-Chancellor's report to the Senate of the University to have been 84.5 per cent. of the number (13,386) on the roll of the elementary schools, and 69.5 per cent to enrolment (2,350) in the night schools. The general average of per-centage of passes was 91.7 against 90.4 in 1894-95.

The number of children who left the different elementary schools during the past year was 3,848; 4,159 were admitted, and 6,481, against 6,292 in the previous year, remain on the books as seeking admission, 6,009 in the day schools, and 472 in

the night schools.

It is obvious from the above that the question of the supply of school accommodation becomes ever more serious. Great efforts have, indeed, been made of late to improve the school buildings and to provide new ones, and these deserve to be recorded. A large school, in fact, was opened at Rabato in September 1896, and was found sufficient to accommodate all the children seeking admission in that district, and a provision of 6,000*l*. for cost of a site and expenditure for building thereon a school at Cospicua has also been sanctioned by the Council of Government. The Government is still very far from having overtaken the demand for school accommodation in these islands. This is evident, and the more evident it becomes, the more apparent and urgent it may appear to the representatives of the people that it is a duty on their part to furnish the Government with the necessary means.

From the report of the Director of Education to the Senate it likewise appears that the present supply of the means of training teachers for elementary schools is not adequate to meet the requirements for efficient elementary instruction. While expressing his opinion that the training school has worked remarkably well since its establishment in 1888, the Director states that "it is highly desirable to prepare teachers to take charge in future

MALTA.

1896.

" of the chief schools more thoroughly, and to better qualify "them by the experience that would be gained by a residence of

" two years in a training college in England."

This suggestion cannot but commend itself to the serious attention of the Government, and of all those who have education in Malta at heart, for doubtless one of the first and best means for promoting efficient elementary education is to place duly and properly equipped teachers in all the schools of these islands. And what better equipment can a teacher possess than a course of preparation in such institutions as are specially organised to train persons in the theory and practice of education?

The unsatisfactory condition of education in Malta having for some time past been the subject of public complaint and of anxiety to the Government, the Council, induced by recent events to grapple with this important question in a practical manner, had, in December last, appointed a Select Committee to inquire into and report upon the organisation of the Education Department, and on any reform that may have become necessary in the present law by which that Department is regulated. It is hoped that the earnest labours of the Committee, aided by the cordial support of all parties concerned, will finally lead to a satisfactory solution of this vital question in the interest both of the present and of the future generations of the people of Malta.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The value of imports in 1896 was 10,472,139l., against

13,099,978l. in 1895, showing a decrease of 2,627,839l.

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1895 and 1896 is shown in the following table :-

				1895.	1896.
				£	£
United Kingdom	•	•		174,350	143,629
British Colonies	-		-	324,916	129,716
Her Majesty's ships	-		-	236	414
Foreign Countries	-	-	-	12,600,476	10,198,380
To	otal		-	13,099,978	10,472,139

Of the imports in 1896, 885,315l. represent the value of cargoes imported and actually landed at this port, and 9,586,824l., the value of cargoes which merely touched at this port and were reexported in the same vessels. Again, of the value of imports o 98010.

MALTA. 1896. landed in Malta, 43,276*l*. represent the value of articles exported, so that the sum of 842,039*l*. is the value of goods imported for local consumption, against 748,720*l*. in the previous year.

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1896, exclusive of goods not subject to duty, were—beer, valued at 71,769l.; beef, 12,565l.; manufactured wheat, 25,588l.; potatoes, 19,838l.; spirits, 5,823l.; oil, 3,710l.; and wine, 1,423l.

Beef, valued at 38,225l., is the principal article imported from the British Colonies.

The principal imports from foreign countries were—cattle, valued at 27,354l., and spirits, valued at 23,645l., from Austria-Hungary; spirits, 3,303l., from Belgium and Holland; manufactured grain 21,865l., cattle 2,013l., spirits 1,514l., and wine 1,461l., from France; cattle 3,800l., from Algiers; wine 26,752l., and seeds 6,787l., from Greece; wine 77,414l., pulse 28,429l., oil 23,806l., seeds 11,950l., potatoes 7,831l., and manufactured grain 2,000l., from Italy; wheat 153,472l., and cattle 82,159l., from Russia; wine 30,437l., pulse 13,273l., seeds 8,770l., saggina, 6,977l., and cattle 4,558l., from Turkey; cattle 75,791l., oil 8,779l., and horses 2,233l., from Barbary; cattle 20,902l., oil 3,436l., horses 1,980l., and pulse 1,602l., from Tunis.

EXPORTS.

The value of the exports in 1896 was 11,886,149l. Compared with 1895, this shows a decrease of 1,345,664l.

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries, respectively, in 1895 and 1896:—

	2 (9)_			1895.	1896.
United Kingdom -				£ 2,859,870	£ 2,359,890
British Colonies -	-	-		3,317,533	2,899,046
Her Majesty's ships -	-12		-	6,817	3,181
Foreign Countries -	-		-	7,047,593	6,624,032
Total			-	13,231,813	11,886,149

Of the total exports in 1896, the sum of 11,842,8731. is the value of whole cargoes carried in ships which merely touched at

this port and proceeded, and 43,276l. the value of the exports from portions of cargoes which were actually landed.

MALTA. 1896.

The principal exports to the United Kingdom in 1896 were—wheat, valued at 2,074,682l., against 2,282,041l. in 1895; Indian corn 72,987l., against 81,482l. in 1895; barley 502,663l., against 203,272l., and inferior grain 148,083l., against 313,781l. in 1895. The same articles, together with wine and spirits, valued at 2,834l. and 22,687l. respectively, were the principal exports to foreign countries.

SHIPPING.

In the following tables particulars are given of the entries and clearances of shipping in Malta during the years 1895 and 1896:—

Entered.

British or		Ste	am or		Nun	nber.	Tonnage Entered.		
	reign.		Sa	iling.		1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.
		-		· v				La record	1 1 1 1 1 1
British	1	3-	Steam	-	-	1,802	1,556	2,599,630	2,312,640
"	_	-	Sailing		-	118	109	10,313	10,856
Foreign	-	-	Steam	-	-	874	984	830,572	891,161
,,	-	-	Sailing		-	1,165	1,137	71,912	78,543
1 104						3,959	3,786	3,512,427	3,293,200
Dec	rease in	18	96 -				173		219,227

Cleared.

British or		Ste	am or		Nur	nber.	Tonnage	Cleared.
Foreign.			iling.		1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.
British -		Steem			1,803	1,563	2,605,693	2,311,942
		Sailing	1.	-	129	97	11,621	9,663
Foreign -		Steam	-	-	873	990	828,501	895,328
,, -	-	Sailing	-	-	1,178	1,117	75,965	74,215
-					3,983	3,767	3,521,780	3,291,148
Decrease i	n 18	96 -	E PO	1/-	M WH	216		230,632

MALTA.. 1896. The movement of the trade during 1896 was as follows -

Tonnage en	ntered f	rom	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
United Kingdom			867,544	573	868,117
British Colonies	-		25,333	837	26,170
Persian Gulf	-)	THE REAL	3,417		3,417
China -	- 17:0	Ale Cons	8,326	J	8,326
Manilla -	- > Via	the Suez	5,959		5,959
India -	-	Canal.	388,805		388,805
Australia -			11,459	,	11,459
Foreign countries	-	-	1,892,958	87,989	1,980,947
	Total		3,203,801	89,399	3,293,200

Tonnage Cleared.

Countries to w	hich de	parted.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
United Kingdom			807,243	631	807,874
British Colonies	-		196,421	2,120	198,541
Persian Gulf	-7		2,045	_	2,045
Australia -	-		1,573		1,573
Madagascar	- 0		27	V -	27
China -	- TT'A	12 0	31,325		31,325
India -	- Via	the Suez	310,901		310,901
Japan -	-	Canal.	1,864		1,864
Java -	-		2,165		2,165
Manilla -	-		6,245		6,245
Russia -	-		3,402		3,402
roreign countries	-	-	1,844,059	81,127	1,925,186
	Total	-	3,207,270	83,878	3,291,148

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

From the returns for the year it appears that the number of prisoners received in the gaols was 6,924, an increase of 121 over that of the previous year.

Of these, the committals for debt were	-	3
For the safe custody to trial -	-	322
For purpose of penal imprisonment -		6,599
		6,924
		Contract of the last of the la

4,624 of these committals were males, 684 females, and 1,616 juveniles, nine of whom being girls.

Committals after two or more previous convictions were less during the year under review than in 1895, while those having but one previous conviction exceeded those of 1895.

The daily average number in prison was 261, against 227 in 1895.

MALTA. 1896.

The number of punishments inflicted in the prison were 286, viz.:—

Solitary confinement on Dark cell on bread and	bread a	and water -	- 1	66 10
Reduction from class	-	-		13
Admonished -	-			97
			2	86

The prisoners' earnings during the year amounted to 9801., viz.:—

Value of labour performed outside the pri (reclaiming waste land, and produce of pri	son	£
lands)	-	300
Inside the prison: mat and broom making, tailo joiner's work, &c.	ring,	670
Sale of animals		10
		£980

These earnings are lodged in the Treasury.

The health of the prisoners during the year was good; 17 cases were treated in hospital, and the deaths were two, one from nervous exhaustion and the other from phthisis.

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

On the 1st January 1896, the number of persons in the hospitals of Malta and Gozo was 268; the admissions during the year were 3,297, so that the cases treated numbered 3 565; of these 1,813 were discharged as being cured, 586 as relieved, 499 at their request, and the deaths were 402.

The following table gives the particulars relating to each hospital:—

Hospital.	In the Hospital on 1st January 1896.	Admitted during the Year.	Discharged as Cured.	Discharged as Relieved.	Discharged not Improved, and at Request.	Deaths.
Central Hospital -	165	2,359	1,198	433	452	234
Seamen's Hospital -	4	77	45	13	8	4
St. Spirito Hospital	62	444	314	44	37	49
Gozo Hospital	37	417	256	96	2	65
Total -	268	3,297	1,813	586	499	402

MALTA. 1896. The following table shows the particulars relating to each asylum:—

Asylum.	Number of Inmates Remaining on 31st December 1895.	Admitted during the Year.	Discharged.	Deaths.	Remaining on 31st December 1896.
Asylum for the Aged and Incurables, viz.: 1. Aged and infirm	700	164	21	133	702
2. Incurables	198	22	5	22	190
3. Lepers	17	4	1	2	18
Lunatic Asylum	573	115	63	34	591
Orphan Asylum	105	6	13	2	96
Total	1,593	311	103	193	1,597

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during the year was 9,672, an increase compared with 1895 of

1,665, and with 1894 of 1,117.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 14,855, of whom 13,553 were summarily convicted, 1,115 discharged for want of evidence or otherwise acquitted, and 187 committed for trial in the Superior Courts.

Of the 13,553 persons summarily convicted, 8,450 were fined, 101 imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 3,934 admonished, and

1,068 were peremptorily imprisoned.

187 cases were tried in the Superior Courts during the year, and the convictions numbered 134. Of these 47 were for offences against property, 45 for offences against the person, I for murder, 1 for attempt at murder, 1 for malicious injuries with violence, 2 for robbery with violence, 3 for offences against the "good order of families," 1 for "false evidence," and 33 were classified under the heading of "miscellaneous offences."

METEOROLOGICAL.

From the records of the observations taken by the Rev. Father J. F. Dobson, S.J., at St. Ignatius College, it is found that the total rainfall of the Island for the year was 21.952 inches, and this was distributed over a total number of 79 days on which rain fell. The minimum of rain fell in May, 1.021 inches, the maximum in November, 5.115 inches.

The rainfall records for 1895 show 11.384 inches in 67 days,

and for 1894 25.159 inches in 90 days.

The mean barometric pressure was 30.018 inches, the highest recorded being 30.597 inches on 30th January, and the lowest, 29.499 inches, on 21st December.

The highest reading of maximum thermometer was 104.8° F. on the 11th August, in sunshine it was 152.0° on the same day, and the lowest, 40.1°, on the 21st January and 18th February.

MALTA. 1896.

The mean temperature for the year (deduced from maximum and minimum) was 64.7°, with a mean daily range of 12.7°.

I have, &c.

G. STRICKLAND, Chief Secretary to Government.

His Excellency
Sir Arthur J. Lyon Fremantle, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
Governor of Malta,
&c. &c. &c.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 183.

MAURITIUS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 156 of this Series.)

RODRIGUES.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1894 AND 1895.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty, October 1896.



LONDON:

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BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,

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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Cole	ony.				Year.
150	Lagos					1894
151	Seychelles	-			-	,,
152	Basutoland -	-	-	-		1894-5
153	Fiji	-		-	-	1894
154	St. Helena -	-			-	,,
155	Ceylon -	-		•	-	99
156	Mauritius	(-)				99
157	Labuan	-	-	-	-	,,,
158	Gold Coast -	-	-	-	-	,,
159	British Guiana -	-		-	-	99
160	Sierra Leone -	-				,,
161	Jamaica	-		•	•	1894-5
162	British Honduras -	-		•		1894
163	British Bechuanaland		-		-	1894-5
164	Newfoundland -	-	- 4	-		1894
165	Gambia	-		-	-	"
166	Bernuda					,,
167	Leeward Islands -	-			-	99
168	British New Guinea	-	-	- 1	-	1894-5
169	Zululand	-	•	-	-	1895
170	Sierra Leone -	-	-			"
171	Gibraltar	-				"
172	Malta	-			-	"
173	Barbados -			•	•	"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	-				"
175	Falkland Islands -		-		- Y-	"
176	St. Helena -	-			-	,,
177	Bahamas -	. 9				,,
178	Hong Kong -		-			"
179	Windward Islands -				-	"
180	Labuan -	- 1		18 . 8	-	,,
181	Trinidad and Tobago	-	7	-		99
182	Seychelles -	. 70				,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.		Subject.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Gold Coast Zululand - Sierra Leone Canada - Bahamas Hong Kong Newfoundland		Economic Agriculture. Forests Geology and Botany. Emigration. Sisal Industry. Bubonic Plague. Mineral Resources.

No. 183.

MAURITIUS. 1895.

MAURITIUS.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 156.)

The ACTING GOVERNOR to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Mauritius,

SIR, July 30, 1896. I HAVE the honour to transmit to you copies of the

Mauritius Blue Book for the year 1895, together with copies of the usual summary.

2. I also transmit herewith my report on the Blue Book.

I have, &c.

C. A. KING HARMAN, Administering the Government.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK for 1895.

FINANCE.

The Revenue for year 1895 was Rs. 8,273,622.03, the expenditure Rs. 8,488,736.78, showing an excess of expenditure over revenue amounting to Rs. 215,114.75.

That excess was met from the surplus balances in the Treasury, no extra taxation being imposed beyond a slight readjustment of the customs duties, involving a small increase in certain items.

The revenue collected showed an increase of Rs. 758,812 in excess of the estimate, and the expenditure was Rs. 182,222 below what was anticipated.

The balance in favour of the Treasury at the end of 1894 was Rs. 1,551,046.96, and at the end of 1895 Rs. 1,254,403.10, showing a decrease of Rs. 296,643.86. This decrease would have been larger had not the Colony obtained a windfall of Rs. 216,354 by carrying to revenue surplus investments of the Commissioners of Currency.

The balance in favour of the Treasury, besides being reduced by the excess of expenditure over revenue, also suffered from the depreciation of the rupee value of the sterling investments of the Colony.

There was also an unexpected falling off in the receipts from the important item of duty on rum, the amount collected having been Rs. 287,687 below what had been estimated; and this loss, combined with the fact that the Budget for the year had shown an anticipated deficit of Rs. 500,000, more than accounts for the comparatively small deficit of Rs. 215,114 with which the accounts for the year were closed.

o 93618. Wt. 20348. Mauritius. 1895. In the early part of the year, owing to the payment into the Sinking Fund for the redemption of Railway Debentures being in excess of the amount required for the extinction of the debt, a sum of 20,587l. 18s. 7d. was passed over to the credit of the Surplus Fund Account. That account amounted at the end of 1895 to 54,453l. 12s. 1d., which in case of emergency can be realised at any time.

The assets of the Colony at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 2,517,470.32, with liabilities Rs. 1,263,067.22, leaving a

balance of Rs. 1,254,403.10 in favour, of the Treasury.

To meet the Public Debt, which at the close of 1895 stood at 1,276,535l. 7s. 3d., the amount at the disposal of the Colony from Sinking Funds and surplus balances, valuing the rupee at 1s. $1\frac{11}{16}d$., equivalent to a rate of exchange of 75 per cent., amounted to 642,557l. 5s.11d., leaving a balance of 633,978l.1s. 4d., which represents the actual debt of the Colony.

Financial Condition of the Municipal Corporation of Port Louis.

	Rs.	c.
Balance in hand on 1st January 1895 -	22,728	92
Revenue and receipts on account during 1895	474,261	56
	496,990	48
Expenditure and payments on account during		
1895	492,228	61
Balance in hand on 31st December 1895 -	4,761	87
Debenture debt of the Municipal Corporation on 1895:—	31st Dec	ember
Conversion Loan	£134,	400
$\mathbf{R}\mathbf{s}$.		
Colonial Loan, 1889 109,200		
Hurricane Government Loan - 138,756		
Colonial Loan, 1894 21,395		
	Rs. 269,	331
Талъ	Call Control	LET FIL

TRADE.

The trade of the year 1895, inclusive of specie and bullion, is valued at Rs. 62,035,872, against Rs. 66,242,885 in 1894, divided into—

	7 (4)		1894.	1895.
Imports -		-	Rs. 32,852,313	Rs. 30,506,570
Exports -	4.0	-	33,390,672	31,529,302
Totals		-	66,242,885	62,035,872

or, exclusive of specie and bullion,-

MAURITIUS, 1895.

Series and the series of the s	-		1894.	1895.
Imports -			Rs. 32,013,065	Rs. 29,844,320
Exports -		-	32,959,690	29,980,622
Totals		-	64,972,755	59,824,942

The rate of imports and exports per head of population was as follows:—

		1894.	1895.
Imports -		Rs. 85 · 09	Rs. 78.94
Exports -		87.60	76.66

IMPORTS.

The values of the principal imports in the years 1894-95, exclusive of charges and exchange, are as follows:—

The state of the s				1894.	1895.
				Rs.	Rs.
Animals -			-	267,183	162,684
Apothecary's ware			-	76,793	85,763
Grain, flour, meal	-	-	-	9,428,324	9,552,191
Apparel and hats -	-	-	-	156,634	125,685
Bags and pockets -			-	350,057	300,665
Brass and copper wares -			-	85,873	62,832
Cement			-	31,442	12,708
Cabinet and upholstery -	-	-	-	23,625	21,989
Cordage and twines -			-	53,745	49,271
Candles	. 16	-	-	33,493	30,447
Coals		-		425,809	381,133
Cotton manufactures -				1,121,969	1,302,792
Drugs and narcotics (gandia ar	nd opi	am)	-	32,156	91,601
Earthen, china, and glass, ware	-	-	-	54,442	50,985
Haberdashery -			-	497,642	356,093
Fireworks		-	-	10,691	8,640
Hardware and cutlery -			-	352,360	366,708
Iron and steel	1.	-	-	225,931	115,743
Jewelry			-	38,009	33,397
Linen, canvas	- 17	-	, -	32,167	26,610
Leather (wrought and unwrough	(ht)	18.2	-	172,695	155,504
Manures and fertilizers -			-	1,846,701	1,459,619
Matches			-	79,760	29,759
Machinery			-	169,620	25,014
Malt liquors, wines and spirits		-	-	866,483	840,434
Nuts (areca)	-	-	-	15,780	23,783
Oil of all kinds		-	-	799,551	800,214
Provisions	12/2	-	-	1,512,396	1,576,088
Painters' and dyers' colours	/		-	69,427	42,041

MAURITIUS. 1895.

			1894.	1895.
			Rs.	Rs.
Perfumery			41,656	43,820
Silk manufactures	-	-	19,220	23,045
Soap, ordinary		-	68,801	43,324
Specie, silver		-	839,248	656,420
Spices	1000		66,902	35,331
Stationery and paper wares -		-	141,947	124,830
Beeds	-		62,147	45,315
Tobacco	- 1		141,555	224,352
Toys			37,175	24,782
Umbrellas and parasols	(4)		34,865	37,608
Wood, timber, and wooden wares	-	-	386,452	367,343
Woollen manufactures		-	181,733	129,510
Totals -			20,852,459	19,846,073

EXPORTS.

The following table shows, in kilogrammes, the quantity of sugar manufactured in the Colony and exported in the years 1894-95, and the value in rupees as ascertained from the different sugar estate companies, taking a mean average of their sales, the rate being calculated per 100 kilogrammes exclusive of shipping charges.

Year.				Quantities exported.	Value in Rupees.
1894		-	-	Kilos. *138,431,733	Rupees. 28,461,564
1895			-	116,454,600	23,515,058

The principal markets for the sugars of the Colony were in 1894-95 as follows:-

Markets.		Quantities in Kilogrammes exported.				
		1894.	1895.			
		Kilos.	Kilos.			
India	-	†73,335,600	48,207,216			
Australasia -		17,075,354	13,270,196			
United Kingdom	-	11,828,624	6,582,789			
Cape Colonies -	-	12,369,395	16,828,019			
Ceylon	-	14,179,389	18,306,977			
United States -	-	3,898,806	9,861,144			
Hong Kong -	-	2,074,888	1,408,186			
New Zealand -		2,172,975	Nil.			

^{*} Including 43,845 kilos., value Rs. 9,014.53, shortshipped in preceding year, but en which the duties had been paid.

† Including 43,845 kilos. shortshipped in preceding year.

The value of other local products exported in 1894-95, inclusive of shipping charges, was as follows:—

MAURITIUS. 1895.

- 6			1894.	1895.
Rum -			Rs. 439,434	Rs. 300,558
Vanilla -			84,374	222,303
Aloe fibre	1	5	178,388	423,006
Molasses			431,361	355,316
Cocoanut oil	7		85,571	93,241

The following statement shows the quantities of the local products exported in 1894-95:—

					1894.	1895.
Rum (litres)			legat.	-	3,053,783	3,024,583
Vanilla (kilos.)		4		-	4,136	18,766
Aloe fibre (kilos.)		-			857,633	1,311,838
Molasses "			- 17	-	7,415,350	9,808,490
Cocoa-nut oil (hecto	1.)		-	-	4,207	2,378

The falling off in imports and exports in 1895, as compared with the previous year, is to be attributed to the short sugar crop in 1894-95, as compared with the crop of 1893-94.

In 1894, 138,431 tons of sugar was exported, and in 1895 only

116,454 tons.

The imports were also affected to a certain extent by the rate of exchange.

In 1894 the average rate was 80 per cent., and in 1895, 83.23 per cent.

SHIPPING.

The returns of shipping, as compared with 1894, are as follows:—

	F.	1	894.		1895.
alports		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered -	-	335	316,350	344	346,506
Cleared -	-	340	324,748	338	340,508
Total		675	641,098	682	687,014

MAURITIUS 1895. showing an increase of nine ships entered in 1895, and a decrease of two ships cleared.

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The military contribution paid by the Colony in 1895 amounted

to 14,906l. 5s.

The troops in the Colony at the end of the year, including Staff, Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, 1st Battn. the Black Watch, Army Service Corps, Ordnance Store Corps, and Medical Staff Corps, amounted to 946 men.

The total military expenditure amounted to 53,8591.

VITAL STATISTICS.

At the close of the year 1895 the resident population of the Colony amounted to 378,041 men, women, and children of different races and nationalities; not including the troops, nor the crews of non-colonial ships temporarily riding in the harbour of Port Louis. The increase, as compared with the total population at the end of 1894, is 1,822, and this increase is almost entirely due to the excess of arrivals over departures, the natural increment of population, that is to say, the excess of births over deaths, being only 12. The natural increment in 1894 was 3,370, and the remarkable falling off is due mainly to the high death rate of the year under report.

The population may be divided into two principal heads: General, including the Chinese, and Indian, including all those

of Indian descent.

At the close of the year 1895 the general population consisted of—

Males.	Females.	Total.	o Arbeitan CAP
60,350	56,699	117,049	

and at the end of 1894:-

Males.	Females.	Total.	
60,047	56,948	116,995	

showing an increase of 303 males, but a decrease of 249 females, and a resultant total increase of 54.

The Chinese element included in the above figures consisted at the close of 1895 of 3,700 souls, an increase of 83 over a similar population at the end of the previous year.

The Indian population may be divided into three sections: the Indo-Mauritians, or natives of Indian extraction, the immigrants,

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and those other Indians who have either come to the Colony MAURITIUS. under no indenture, or have remained after their period of indenture has been concluded.

The figures showing the strength of these various Indian elements on the 31st December 1895 are as follows:—

_				Males.	Females.	Total.
Indo-Mauritians				90,000	87,000	177,000
Immigrants -			-	51,153	24,757	75,910
Other Indians -	-	-	-	5,967	2,115	8,082
						260,992

These figures as compared with those at the close of the previous year show an increase of 539 males and 1,229 females. total 1,768.

We find, therefore, that during the year 1895 the Indian population had increased by 1,768 souls, the Chinese had increased by 83, and the remaining general creole population had decreased by 29, giving a net increase of 1,822 souls. natural increment, or the increase of births over deaths, among the Indian population during 1895 was 231, or not quite 1 per 1,000; but among the general population there was a natural decrement of 219, or about 2 per 1,000. The total natural increment was therefore only 12, as stated in the beginning of this report.

Proportion of males to females. In the whole population the males predominate; but the ratio of predominance is steadily diminishing. In the general population there are 106 males to 100 females and in the combined Indian sections 129 males to 100 females. The marriage rate or number of persons married to every 1,000 living in the whole population in 1895 was 6.2. This is lower than that of the previous year, when it was 6.7.

The birth rate during the year (of the total population) was 37.1 per 1,000, or 1 per 1,000 lower than in 1894, when, however, the birth rate was exceptionally high.

The mortality of 1895 was exceedingly high, the death rate being 37·1 as against 29·0 in 1894. In 1893 the rate was 40·9, due principally to an epidemic of influenza, and in 1892 the terrible cyclone of the 29th April raised the rate to 38.2. These two years excepted, the death rate of 1895 will be seen to be the highest since 1868. The principal cause of the high rate seems to be the prevalence of dysentery, which in some districts occasioned very many deaths.

In Port Louis the death rate for the year was 47.7, as against 24.2 in the year 1894.

MAURITIUS. 1895.

POLICE.

The total effective strength of the Police Force as allowed by law is 708; the actual strength, however, on the 31st December 1895 was 704. But from these numbers must be deducted 113 men employed on miscellaneous duties or sick in hospital, thus leaving but 591 for the repression and detection of crime and for the enforcement of the laws.

The question of increasing the strength of the force is under consideration.

The force during 1895 was composed of the following nationalities:—

Europeans	-	•		-	- 45
Mauritians		- 0		-	- 468
Indians	-	-		-	- 173
Arab	-				- 1
Americans	-	-	-		- 6
Australian			-	-	- 1
Cape of Go		pe -			- 5
Réunion	-	-			- 5

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the Magistrates in 1895 was 33,023, a decrease of 18,080 as compared with 1894.

The total number of convictions in the inferior courts was 19,592, an increase of 403 as compared with 1894.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows:-

			2043	1894.	1895.
Offences against the person			-	7	37
Offences against property				27	28
Other offences	•	-	•	11	2
Totals -				45	67

The acquittals were as follows:-

			1894.	1895.
In the inferior courts -			5,012	2,495
In the Supreme Court -	•		20	8
Tetals		4.1	5,032	2,803

PRISONS.

MAURITIUS. 1895.

The admissions into the several gaols of the Island during the year 1895 amounted to 6,417 males and 341 females, a decrease of 1,000 males and an increase of 3 females as compared with the previous year.

The population on 31st December, including 35 in hospital, was 1,033 as compared with 1,067 on the last day of 1894, of whom

56 were in hospital.

The numbers admitted to hospital during the years 1894 and 1895, with the number of deaths in each of those years, are as follows:—

Year.				Admitted.			Died.		
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1894			-	1,439	37	1,476	70	2	72
1895			-	1,773	79	1,832	78	3	81

Twenty-one escapes occurred during the year, 20 of which were from gangs employed at out-door labour. In 1894 there were 25 escapes, 23 being from out-door labour. 24 escaped prisoners were re-captured in 1895, including five who had escaped in previous years.

The value of the work done by the prisoners during the year, together with the value of the material, plant, and machinery in hand on the 31st December amounted to Rs. 142,218.35 as against similar values in 1894, Rs. 109.266.50.

The bulk of the work was extra-mural either in the prison gardens or on the roads, and the work done within the walls was exclusively for the use of the Government Departments.

Taking credit for cash payments and labour of prisoners the cost per head has been Rs. 135.64 against Rs. 142.33 in 1894.

The long pending works at the central prisons, Beau Bassin, were practically concluded by the end of the year, and orders had been issued for the closing of the three district prisons and for the concentration of all prisoners at the central prison, where accommodation was ready for 972 men, any over that number being detained in the Port Louis gaol.

In the new block B., 432 prisoners can be received on the separate system, and steps will be taken to partly introduce the same system into Block A., where 540 prisoners are confined in

association, three men being in each cell.

REFORMATORY.

The number of juvenile offenders admitted into the Reformatory during the year 1895 was 270, a decrease of 90 as compared with the preceding year. The conduct of the boys was very unsatisfactory, escapes were frequent, and 218 offences against discipline are recorded during the year.

The absence of any minimum period of detention leads to the commitment of boys for short periods, and the institution is

MAURITIUS 1895. apparently regarded more in the light of a juvenile prison than a reformatory. Under these circumstances it is hardly to be wondered at that the object for which it was established is rarely attained.

EDUCATION.

The year under report is not marked by any special event in the Education Department. An attempt was made during the year to bring to a head and to give effect to certain recommendations of the Royal College Commission, together with instructions from the Secretary of State, which would have placed the Education Department under a Director of Public Instruction, the post of Superintendent of Schools and the Council of Education with its committees being thereby abolished, and which would also have brought about other important changes in the educational system in the Colony.

But the elected members of the Legislature, supported by the entire press of the Island, requested that the matter should be postponed until after the elections had been held, during which time the proposals could be laid before, and discussed by, the

electorate.

This was agreed to, and no change was therefore introduced

The year 1894 closed with 172 schools and 17,701 pupils. The number of schools increased to 179 and the pupils to 18,279 by the end of 1895.

Of these schools, 49 were first grade, 31 second grade, two reformatory and 97 State-aided. The 97 State-aided were divided into:—

Roman Catholic - - 61 with 6,554 pupils.

Church of England - 33 ,, 2,001 ,,

Presbyterian - - 2 ,, 172 ,,

Mahomedan - - 1 ,, 133 ,,

The Superintendent of Schools reports that the results of the examinations in the Government and non-Roman Catholic schools were more satisfactory than in 1894, marked improvements being noticeable in almost every branch. The Inspector of Roman Catholic Aided Schools reports in the same satisfactory terms.

The sum spent on primary Government schools for the year 1895, irrespective of cost of administration, maintenance of Government buildings, cost of scholarships, books, and stationery tor sale to aided school managers, Government teachers and pupils, and industrial apprenticeships, was Rs. 255,682.75 against Rs. 238,752.80 in 1894.

The grant to aided schools amounted to Rs. 103,060 against Rs. 92,992.72 in 1894.

The cost per pupil amounted to-

Rs.
In Government schools - - 16.20
In aided schools - - 11.63
against Rs. 15.86 and Rs. 10.93 respectively in 1894.

MAURITIUS. 1895.

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 \pounds s. d.

The programme of studies in a Government school is far more important and extensive than that of a State-aided school and the work done reaches a higher standard.

In the year under report the first examination took place for two scholarships for girls, of the annual value of Rs. 244 each for three years. 27 candidates presented themselves and the general result of the examination was satisfactory.

SAVINGS BANK.

The number of depositors in 1895 as compared with 1894 shows an increase of 511, the numbers for the respective years being :-

1895 - 23,327 1894 - 22.816

The amount deposited in 1895 was Rs. 1,047,135, in 1894 Rs. 1,149,816, showing a decrease in 1895 of Rs. 102,681.

The amount withdrawn in 1895 was Rs. 1,226,184, in 1894

Rs. 1,236,678, showing a decrease in 1895 of Rs. 10,494.

The total sum standing to the credit of depositors at the end of 1895, including the interest due to them was Rs. 3,174,043.

Of this sum Rs. 1,476,289 belonged to the Indian population. The funds belonging to the Savings Bank at the end of 1895 were distributed as follows, the value of the investment being shown in each case:-

					2	3.	u.
	23 per cent. Conso	ls -			65,142	18	5
	3½ per cent. Canad	a -	-	_	1,546		5
	4 per cent. Car		Good	Hope			
	(A. and O.)	1.5	and the first	17.	13,615	17	6
	4 per cent. Cap	e of	Good	Hope	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
	(T. and D.)	144			763	18	9
	4 per cent. Ceylon		VIIV UIS		31,274		0
	3½ per cent. New S		Wales	STREET, ST.	11,117		
	4 per cent.		_	10 公开生。130	4,911		1
	4 per cent. Victoria		9) -	AT TO STATE	2,031		3
	4 per cent. do.	,	/	#35 P. D	1 624		4
1		(102	·)		1 021	10	-
					132,028	3	7
In	dian Securities—				102,020	0	
TO.	3 per cent. Stock,	Rs. 65	5.000 at	607 -	3,956	17	6
				at $58\frac{7}{8}$ -			3
	- 140 TO 1 TO 10.5	100. 1,	341,000	as 008		SU.	0
					235,572	2	4
					Rs	ner	c.
	Equal at par to	to critical	e legge .	Charles .	2,355,	721	16
		7 =					
	Add exchange at	o per	cent		1,766,	190	87
		e di bu			<u>- alvenia</u>		-
	Total investments	e di bu			4,122,	512	03
		e di bu			4,122,		03
	Total investments Add cash balance	in rup -			4,122,	512 985	03 41

MAURITIUS. 1895. The liabilities of the bank at the end of 1895 were:-

Due to depositors	त्रात्ते का स्ट्रा विक्रमान	Rs 3,073,358 1	c.
Do. Treasury account advances	i starojen 10. i staroj	- 266,258 1	
Total	ed by Will Visit Hotel	- 3,339,616 3	33
Balance in favour of bank -	-	- 802,881 1	1

The total amount of interest at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. accruing to depositors in 1895 was Rs. 97,017.44, or Rs. 34,487.92 less than the interest realised by investments.

The total cost of the establishment of the bank in 1895 was

Rs. 13,470.36.

LEGISLATION.

Out of 49 Draft Ordinances introduced into the Council of Government during the session of 1895, 32 were passed. Owing to the great pressure of work, some important measures, such as the New Building Act, the New Penal Code, and the Vaccination and Re-vaccination Ordinance, could not be proceeded with, but will be re-introduced as early as possible.

Of the Ordinances passed, the following are the most

important:-

"To amend and consolidate the Customs Tariff."

The principal object of this measure is to consolidate the Customs Tariff by amalgamating the permanent with the provisional Customs Tariff Laws; the provisional surtax of 10 per cent. on Customs duties and the increased duties on certain imports have thus been made permanent and the work of the Customs Department and of the mercantile community in regard to Customs entries has been simplified.

Advantage has been taken of the passing of this law to amend

by increase or reduction a number of items of the tariff.

An Ordinance "to provide for the appointment of a Board of Commissioners for the towns of Beau Bassin and Rose Hill," and an Ordinance "to provide for the appointment of a Board of

Commissioners for the town of Quatre Bornes."

These two Ordinances were introduced to satisfy the demand of the inhabitants in the districts or towns mentioned for a certain measure of local government, and excited a great deal of local interest. The respective Boards are provided with funds necessary for the carrying out of the work entrusted to them by giving them a sum from the Treasury equal to the amount of the direct taxes paid on vehicles and animals used and kept in the town and also the power to levy a rate upon house property not to exceed one per cent. per annum of the value of the property assessed.

An Ordinance "to appropriate five per cent. of the Revenue of "Mauritius to the use of the Imperial Government as a Military "Contribution."

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COLONIAL REPORTS .-- ANNUAL.

This Ordinance was passed, but not in the exact form in which it was introduced, several important items of receipt being exempted from the per-centage and the operation of the law restricted to revenue accruing after January 1896.

An Ordinance "to amend Ordinance No. 5 of 1887."

Under this Ordinance the magistrates of the Colony are given the duties and powers of revising barristers in respect of the elections to the Council of Government.

An Ordinance "to reduce to 4 per cent. the rate of interest on all moneys belonging to the Widows and Orphans Pension Fund and invested with the Government of this Colonv."

"The Crown Prosecutor's Ordinance, 1895," renders permanent the posts of two Crown Prosecutors and defines their duties and powers

IMMIGRATION.

729 adult men and 226 women were imported during the year 1895 from Calcutta, and 481 adult men and 159 women from Madras, and during the same period 784 men and 219 women were returned to India.

The mortality on the sugar estates was very high, due principally to dysentery and an epidemic of measles. The total number of deaths from all causes amounted to 3,925, equal to 34.2 per 1000.

The rate per 1,000 of mortality on sugar estates for the last five years has been as follows:-

- 23.4 per 1,000. 1891 1892 - 29.9 1893 -- 39.1 1894 **-** 1895 **-**- 25.2 34.2

It is satisfactory to observe that the relations between employers and employed are improving year by year, judging from the diminishing number of complaints lodged by the Indians in the district courts.

As a light thrown upon the permanent settlement of Indians in the Colony, the Protector of Immigrants reports that in regard to the value of property bought by Indians during the year 1894, as compared with 1893, there is an increase of Rs. 774,707, but that in 1895 there was a decrease of Rs. 865,182.

In spite of the sickly season, the condition of the Indian population in the Island during the year under review was satisfactory. Work was plentiful throughout the year, and in consequence wages were high. It is estimated that a fourth of the sugar manufactured in the Island was produced by them.

POST OFFICE and TELEGRAPH.

The revenue collected in 1895 was Rs. 66,021.35, an increase of Rs. 407.06 over the amount collected in 1894.

The expenditure amounted to Rs. 183,742.32, or Rs. 1,451.60 more than the disbursements in 1894.

MAURITIUS.

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MAURITIUS. 1895.

The business of the Department shows an increase in letters, post cards, and newspapers, but a considerable decrease in the postal money orders.

The subsidy of Rs. 60,000 to the Messageries Maritimes

Company continued to be paid during the year.

An annual subsidy also of 7,000*l*. is paid by the Colony to the Eastern and South African Telegraph Company, Limited, towards the expense of the cable from Mauritius to Seychelles, and Seychelles to Zanzibar.

POOR LAW RELIEF.

The total number of paupers relieved and maintained by the Poor Law Department throughout the Colony during the year 1895 amounted to 82,042 against 83,575 for the previous years, showing a decrease of 1,533 in favour of the year under report.

The relief was distributed as follows :-

Indoor - - - 12,870 Outdoor - - 69,172

Total - 82,042

The expenditure of the Department in 1895 amounted to Rs. 186,647.93 against Rs. 218,640.00 spent in the preceding year, a decrease of Rs. 32,993 in favour of 1895.

The ratio of paupers in general in 1895 as compared with the population on December 31, 1894, was 1 in 4, about the same as

that of the year 1894.

AGRICULTURE.

The year 1895 opened badly. A short crop and low prices in 1894 had left a balance against the Colony, and there was little in the position of the staple industry to warrant a hope for an improvement in the market. In January and February a rainfall far below the average not only caused apprehensions of a drought, such as did so much damage to the crop of 1894, but actually arrested vegetation and threw back the young canes at least a month. Plentiful rains in March, however, did much to remedy the mischief, and a favourable season, without any important meteorological disturbance, produced one of the largest crops recorded during the last few years. The destruction of the Cuban crop and a good demand for sugar for the Australian and South African Colonies tended to keep the market at a remunerative figure by reducing stocks and diverting a considerable quantity of produce from the Indian consumer, practically the only other customer for Mauritius high class sugar.

The most noticeable feature in agriculture during the year has been the great increase in production of canes by small cultivators. These are almost entirely confine t to the Indian classes, generally men who have worked out their indentures and who, having

saved a little money, are able to purchase their own small patches of land. It is exceedingly difficult to estimate the total quantity of land under this kind of cultivation, as no official return is yet made of the area cultivated by what may be termed peasant proprietors. Such a return might also show the amount of land under canes on estates where there are no mills, and the quantity of sugar made from the produce of such lands, and, in the present transitory condition of the arable land in Mauritius, would be an important and an interesting document.

The Indian, having acquired his small patch of property, is able to turn his industrious habits to good account, for while on the large estates the labour force is carefully protected by Government and a system of task work has gradually been accepted which brings the effective labour to a minimum compared with the nominal labour force employed, the Indian peasant proprietor works early and late, and it is no uncommon sight to see men who have finished their task on estates working on their own patches after hours, assisted by every member of their families.

During the year 1895 much land has changed hands, and the "amorcellement," or sale in small lots, of estates affords the opportunity to the Indian to acquire property. That the movement will go on at an increasing pace is inevitable, and a significant fact is that many proprietors are increasing the power of their factories in view of buying the canes produced by these small planters. Thus the central factory system is within the sphere of practical economics, and, with large areas of land coming into the market, and the increasing scarcity of labour, it is more than ever probable that the process of manufacture will eventually be entirely separated from the production of the raw material. Such a division of labour will undoubtedly be for the benefit of the Colony in giving that profit which, under the existing system, is not sufficiently certain to have the effect of attracting capital.

For the rest, there is little progress to be recorded in the methods of cultivation. The Committee of Chemists of the Chamber of Agriculture laid themselves out to conduct a series of experiments with various fertilizers under the able guidance of Monsieur P. Boname, Director of the Station Agronomique, and every opportunity was afforded at that excellent institution to planters for increasing their knowledge and comparing various methods of cultivation. But there has been little response on the part of the planting community, who are slow to adopt systems novel to themselves and their forefathers. A return of two tons to the acre, which may be regarded as a good average crop, is not as much as might be expected from the generally fertile soil and favourable climate of Mauritius.

In mechanical appliances for the manufacture of sugar there are no improvements to be recorded during the year, and although, as stated above, many factories have been increased in power in view of the large purchases of canes from petty planters, no important additions have been made to the existing machinery.

MAURITIUS. 1895.

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MAURITIUS. 1895. It has been demonstrated that the cost of fuel deprives the diffusion pro ess, at the one factory where it has been tried in the Colony, of the profit obtained by the greater extraction, and that unless coal can be obtained from India or Natal at a much lower price than is charged for that now imported from Australia or England, it is not likely that the system will gain ground or be substituted for the double crushing. The fuel question will, however, soon become an important one for the sugar industry generally, the supply of wood being alarmingly short, and the systematic planting of timber being to a great extent neglected.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Director of Medical and Health Department reports that on the whole the public health of the Colony was comparatively good during 1895. The disease most prevalent was, as usual, malarial fever with its various forms and complications, and those coming next in order were dysentery and phthisis.

During the latter part of the year many cases of measles, which is not endemic in the Island, occurred in different districts, the

disease assuming an epidemic character.

C. A. KING HARMAN, Acting Governor.

July 29, 1896.

RODRIGUES.

RODRIGUES. 1894.

SIR H. E. JERNINGHAM to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Mauritius, January 6, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Rodrigues Blue Book by Mr. Colin, the Magistrate, for the year 1894.

I have, &c.

HUBERT E. H. JERNINGHAM,

Governor.

REPORT ON THE RODRIGUES BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1894.

TAXATION

In 1894 the taxation on cattle was reduced to R.1 per head of cattle.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the year amounted to Rs. 8,880.23 against Rs. 5,131.06 in 1893.

The payments amounted to Rs. 29,637.58 against Rs. 22,600.7

in 1893.

SIR,

Forest revenue, land rent, dog tax, pasturage fees and licenses are the principal heads of revenue (Custom duties are collected in Mauritius).

The excess of payments is to be attributed to the new buildings, roads, jetty, water reservoir, and to extra salaries.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

The exports exclusive of specie amounted to Rs. 105,729.46 against Rs. 94,972.20 in 1893. The ratio of export per head was Rs. 40.90 in 1893 and Rs. 41.92 in 1894.

The imports show a total of Rs.137,133.55 against Rs.107,002.25

in the preceding year.

The ratio of import per head was Rs. 54.21 against Rs. 45.88 in 1893.

RODRIGUES. 1894.

SHIPPING.

Under this head, the year 1894 compared with 1893 shows the following differences:—

			Inwards.	Outwards
1893		-	10	11
1894	13010		10	9

The subventioned ship (s.s. "Touareg") was wrecked in the Port Mathurin creek on the 18th December 1894.

The subsidy for postal service is always paid in Mauritius.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The population on the 31st December 1893 was composed of 2,322 souls, i.e., 1,268 males and 1,054 females.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The crop of 1894 has been very poor, owing to the gale of the 23rd April last.

Tobacco plantations are increasing considerably. If the "Touareg" had not been wrecked, the exportation of tobacco would have amounted to about 20,331½ kilos.

By the wreck of the subventioned ship a loss of about Rs. 35,000 is incurred by the population.

A water reservoir has been constructed, and if pipes are sent in time the population of Port Mathurin will have pure water by the end of 1895.

A road leading to St. Gabriel has been begun, as well as a jetty to facilitate the discharging of cargo.

The Government surveyor has surveyed numerous lots of Crown lands, many of which will be sold in the course of the year 1895.

Several buildings have been repaired.

B. H. COLIN, Magistrate of Rodrigues.

January 15, 1895.

RODRIGUES.

RODRIGUES. 1895.

The ACTING GOVERNOR to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Mauritius,
August 29, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the report on the Rodrigues
Blue Book by Mr. F. Robert, the Acting Magistrate, for the

year 1895.

I have, &c.
C. A. King Harman,
Administering the Government.

REPORT ON THE RODRIGUES BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1895.

REVENUE.

The revenue of the year customs and sums received	(exclusive of in Mauritius)	Rs.
amounted to	-	10,372.00
And the revenue of 1894 to		8,880.23
Showing an increase of -		1,491.77

Licenses, dog-tax, pasturage fees, land rent, forest produce, fines and land sales were the principal heads of revenue.

EXPENDITURE.

The payments made in 1895, (not including	Rs.
sums paid in Mauritius and matters of account) amounted to And the expenditure of 1894 (not including sums paid in Mauritius and matters of	23,092.00
account) to	29,637.58
Showing a decrease of	6,545.58

RODRIGUES. 1895.

JUDICIAL.

Criminal Side.

The most common charges were for breach of forest and fishery laws, disturbance, larceny, assault, abusive language, drunkenness, possession of stolen property, and refusing to lend assistance to quench fires.

Many Contract Contrac	1894.	1895.
No. of informations filed (including applications tor search-warrants)	53	69
No. of adjudications	41	40
No. of cases abandoned	12	13
No. of persons convicted -	43	37
No. of persons acquitted	9	11
No. of cases pending	1	18

Civil Side.

No. of cases entered	46	49
Applications for warrants to levy and provisional seizure warrants	-	6

Most of the plaints entered were for damages and claims for amounts due on goods sold and delivered.

Stipendiary Side.

					1894.	1895.
No. of cases -	men.	agait the	- 19	-	8	9
No. of engagements		-	-	-	25	6
No. of discharges	•	240	11-04	-	3	9

The total number of cases of all jurisdictions was 107 in 1894 and 133 in 1895. The amount of fines paid was Rs. 347.05.

The court revenue was Rs. 609.57 and the expenditure Rs. 128.53.

POST OFFICE.

The revenue collected in 1895 for postage labels sold, unpaid letters and money order commission was Rs. 248.41 against Rs. 195.16 in 1894.

RODRIGUES. 1895.

I delecte be being break make		1894.	1895.
No. of inland letters received from Mauritius	-	1,190	1,304
Newspapers	-	785	889
Foreign letters	-	76	50
Total -	-	2,051	2,243
No. of letters despatched to Mauritius -	-	1,385	1,708
Foreign letters	-	39	68
Total -	-	1,424	1,771
Showing an increase of -		eggiver -	,205·95 8,878·87 Rs.
The money orders drawn on Re	odrig		
1895 amounted to - And in 1894 to	7		4,455·16 4,350·62
Showing an increase of -	-		104.54
Crown Lands and	Fo	DRESTS.	
Land Rent			
Land Rent		1894.	1898
The number of acres leased to cu	ıltiv	100	1898
The number of acres leased to cu	ıltiv: -	100	1893
The number of acres leased to cuamounted to The fishing posts numbered	ıltiv: -	ators	Annu To
The number of acres leased to cu amounted to	ıltiv: - -	ators - 617	666
The number of acres leased to cuamounted to The fishing posts numbered	ıltiv	- 617 - 42	666 54

The total revenue actually received under the heading of Land Rent, (including fishing-posts, town-lots, and Islands, and other leases) amounted to Rs. 1,903 against Rs. 1,525·12 in 1894.

Pasturage.

In 1895 there were 1,671 goats and 252 heads of cattle declared.

The pasturage dues received during the year amounted to Rs. 1,433.20 against Rs. 662.26 in 1894.

RODRIGUES 1895.

Forest Produce.

The revenue derived from forest produce amounted to Rs. 414·18 in 1895 against Rs. 377·26 in 1894.

LAND SALES.

In 1894, town-lot No. 31 was sold for Rs. 245.

In 1895 town-lots Nos. 30, 35, 36, 37, 39, 41, 42, 43, 45, 47, 70 to 77 (inclusive) 89, 97, 98, 100 and another lot opposite to No. 81 at Camp du Roi, were sold for Rs. 771.50; and numerous lots in different parts of the island have been sold for Rs. 1670.50, making a total sum of Rs. 2,422; one fourth of which has been paid cash in terms of the conditions of sale. One town-lot has been granted, free of charge, to the London Missionary Society for the erection of a chapel.

The amount received during the year under this heading was Rs. 1741.63 of which Rs. 183.75 were for balance of the land

sold in 1894.

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' FUND.

The sums paid by the subscribers during the year amounted to Rs. 476.97.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

There are two Roman Catholic chapels at Rodrigues; one at Port Mathurin and the other at St. Gabriel. The expenditure under this heading was Rs. 4,344.28 in 1895, against Rs. 2080.56 in 1894.

The catechist of the Church of England officiated at the Government School of Port Mathurin. He is paid by the London

Missionary Society.

MEDICAL.

The number of patients maintained in the public hospital of

Mount Lubin was 117 in 1894, and 63 in 1895.

In 1894, medical care was given to 2,092 persons at both dispensaries (Port Mathurin and Mount Lubin) and 2,617 in 1895.

In 1894, 11 deaths occurred at the hospital of Mount Lubin

and 7 in 1895, due to Influenza.

In 1894, 130 children were vaccinated and 103 in 1895.

No hospital fee is exacted.

The total expenditure was Rs. 4,277.07 against Rs. 3,235.66 in 1894.

EDUCATION.

There are two Government schools; one at Port Mathurin and the other at St. Gabriel. The town school has been closed for about two months through the absence on leave of the schoolmaster (Mr. Dove).

Bocks, &c. (sent from Mauritius) were sold to the pupils to the amount of Rs. 103.61 in 1895 against Rs. 86.32 in 1894.

Rodrigues; 1895.

The cost of both schools amounted to Rs. 2,327.37 in 1895 against Rs. 2,751 in 1894.

The annual cost to Government for each pupil inscribed in 1895 was 18.77.

With the exception of a few pupils, all are Roman Catholic. There are no Protestants in St. Gabriel school.

GAOL.

Twenty-five persons were committed to gaol in 1894 and 19 in 1895.

The Chief Officer of Police is the keeper of the gaol, and the constables act as prison guards

WATER SUPPLY

Under this item a sum of Rs. 483.35 has been spent specially for salary of a pipe-layer sent from Mauritius and for assistance given to him by different persons employed as masons, &c. The sum provided for water supply in the estimates having been exhausted, the works were stopped.

METEOROLOGICAL!

The Chief Officer of Police took daily observations, which have been transmitted to the Director of the Royal Alfred Observatory at Mauritius.

	Therm. F.	New. Barom.
	0	_
1. Highest temperature (indoors), on the		In.
19th February 1895 at 3 p.m	89.03	30.380
2. Lowest temperature 26th August 1895		
	68.57	29.784
3. The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours was from	n the 17th	March,
9 a.m., to the 18th March, 9 a.m., viz.; 2 inch	es, 9 lines.	
4. The month of August was the month i	n which th	ere were
the heaviest rainfalls, viz.: 9 inches, 68 lines.		

No hurricane visited the island in 1895.

LEGISLATION.

The only law enacted for this dependency during 1895 was Regulation No. 1 of 1895, "To provide means to put a stop to depredations in Tobacco plantations."

93618.

RODRIGUES. 1895.

POOR LAW.

Fifteen males and seven females were provided for in 1894 and fifteen males and eight females in 1895.

POPULATION.

The population on the 31.12.95 was composed of 2,540 inhabitants, consisting of natives of this Island, of Mauritius, Madagascar, India, China, Europe, Seychelles, and Réunion, who are traders, agriculturists and fishermen.

The number of births was - - - 140

,, deaths - - - 109
,, arrivals - - - 129
,, departures - - 142

The number of births is the same, but there is an increase of 68 deaths compared with 1894.

There were two still-births in 1895 and none in 1894.

Thirteen marriages were celebrated in 1895 and 15 in 1894.

There was one marriage in "articulo mortis" in 1895 and none in 1894.

SHIPPING.

The number of ships which arrived at and left Rodrigues during 1895 was 10.

The service between Rodrigues and Mauritius was performed in five trips by the subventioned British barque "Hattonburn."

The schooner "Earnest" made two trips for trading purposes. H.M.S. "Bonaventure" and "Cossack" visited the island in

August.

The s.s. "Bezwada" of the British India Company, chartered by Government, called here on the 25th January 1895, on her voyage from Colombo to Mauritius, to inquire about the loss of the "Touareg," and took the wrecked steamer's crew and passengers. She took also a mail to Mauritius.

EXPORTS.

The exports (exclusive of specie) amounted to Rs. 105,729.46 in 1894 and to Rs. 169,449 in 1895. The ratio of export per head was Rs. 41.92 in 1894 and Rs. 66.71 in 1895

IMPORTS.

The imports amounted to Rs. 137,773.56 in 1895, against Rs. 137,138.55 in 1894.

The ratio of import per head was Rs. 54.24, against Rs. 54.21 in 1894.

GENERAL REMARKS.

RODRIGUES. 1895.

The crop of beans in 1895 has not been a good one, on account

of too frequent and heavy showers.

The village of Port Mathurin is not yet supplied with water, the sum provided for in the Estimates of 1895 having been exhausted before the completion of the works. The want of a water supply is deeply felt by the inhabitants.

Great fires broke out in the course of November and destroyed

a considerable extent of forests on Crown Lands.

An epidemic of influenza prevailed in this island in the course of the year and caused the death of many children.

March 9, 1896.

FRED. ROBERT, Junior, Acting Magistrate.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 181.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894 see No. 145 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

October 1896.



LONDON:

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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.		Colony.	N.			Year.
146	Gibraltar					1894
147	Falkland Islands -		•			"
148	Hong Kong -				-	99
149	Straits Settlements -		•	-		99
150	Lagos	3.4		11.		. 99
151	Seychelles		-	-		,,
152	Basutoland -				•	1894-95
153	Fiji			(- A		1894
154	St. Helena -		7.	-	-	"
155	Ceylon				-	"
156	Mauritius	-				"
157	Labuan		•	•		"
158	Gold Coast		•		-	"
159	British Guiana -		•			"
160	Sierra Leone -	-			2 . •.	>>
161	Jamaica			-	-	1894-95
162	British Honduras -	•	•			1894
163	British Bechuanaland			-	•	1894-95
164	Newfoundland -	•		14 ·	-	1894
165	Gambia			•	•	"
166	Bermuda		•	-	•	33
167	Leeward Islands -	-	•		-	99
168	British New Guinea				-	1894-95
169	Zululand		10 S. 15	1		1895
170	Sierra Leone -				•	77
171	Gibraltar		•	. 1		99
172	Malta		-			"
173	Barbados					99
174	Turks and Caicos Islan	nds -			-	"
175	Falkland Islands -	•			-	"
176	St. Helena -	- 1		-		"
177	Bahamas	-	-	-	-	,,,
178	Hong Kong	. 70			-	99
179	Windward Islands -		-		-	"
180	Labuan		-			"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony			Subject.
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	ar which		Forests.
2 3	Sierra Leone		1	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -	-		Emigration.
4 5	Bahamas -			Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong		TV	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	· Per	172	Mineral Resources.

No. 181.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

TRINIDAD
AND
TOBAGO
1895.

(For Report for 1894 see No. 145.)

Sir F. NAPIER BROOME to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

SIR, Government House, June 15, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Trinidad and Tobago
Blue Book for the year 1895, and to make the following report
upon the Trinidad returns.

Taxes and Duties.

2. The customs' tariff was revised. The present tariff, fixed by Ordinance No. 18 of 1895, is as follows:

		£	S.	d.
Bread—all kinds, the barrel -	1 = -	0	1	0
Boots and shoes, for every 1001.		5	0	0
Bricks, the 1,000		0	3	0
Butter, ghee, &c		0	0	1
Carriages on springs, 4 wheels each -	-	7	0	0
,, 2 ,, -	-	4	0	0
Cheese, the pound	-	0	0	1
Cement, the barrel	71 000	0	0	6
Cocoanuts, the 1,000	BHI T	0	10	0
Coal and coke, the ton			Fre	ee
Corn—all kinds, including oats, the bus	hel -	0	0	4
Dogs, each	Par (-)	0	10	0
Fireworks, the pound	-	0	1	3
Flour, the barrel 196 lbs		0	3	4
Gunpowder, the pound -	-	0	0	7
Earthern and glassware, every 100l.		5	0	0
Furniture, every 100l		5	0	0
Lard and its compounds, 100 lbs		0	4	2
Liquors, viz.:				
Malt—in wood, the gallon -	-	0	0	10
,, in bottles, the dozen re	outed			
quart bottles		0	1	6
Methylated spirits, the gallon -	-	0	1	6
All other spirits, strong waters, &c	., the			100
gallon		0	10	6

o 93540. Wt. 20348.

TRINIDAD
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Wines in bottle:	£	s.	d.
Sparkling wines, the gallon	0	6	0
All other wines—42 degrees, the gallon	0	3	3
Wines in wood—23 ,, ,,	0	1	3
,, 32 ,,	0	1	9
,, 42 ,, ,,	0	3	3
Matches—Lucifer, the gross of boxes -	0	2	6
Match splints, the case of 10 gross of matches	0	12	6
Meal or other flour, the barrel of 196 lbs	0	1	6
Muskets, guns, &c., each	0	5	0
Oil—Crecsote, every 100l. value	5	0	0
" Cocoanut, the gallon	0	1	3
" Petroleum "	0	0	9
" Lard "	0	1	3
,, All others ,,	0	1	3
Oleomargarine, the pound	0	0	$0\frac{1}{2}$
Opium, the pound	0	15	0
Oxen, bulls and cows, each	0	10	0
Patent fuel, the ton		Fr	
Rice, the 100 lbs	0	2	2
Slates, flag stones and tiles, the 1,000	0	4	2
Soap, the 100 lbs	0	2	1
Sugar, the 100 lbs	0	10	0
Tea, the pound '-	0	0	6
Timber, the 1,000 feet	0	8	4
,, Shingles, the 1,000	0	1	6
" Shooks, the bundle	0	0	$3\frac{1}{2}$
" Staves, the 1,000	0	6	0
,, Wood hoops, the 1,000	0	3	0
Tobacco - Unmanufactured, the pound -	0	1	3
" Cigars and cigarettes, the pound -	0	5	0
" All other manufactured, the pound	0	3	0
Textile manufactures, wearing apparel, &c.,			
the 100 <i>l</i> .	5	0	0
Other goods, wares, merchandize, &c. the			
1001	5	0	0

3. A dog-tax of a dollar on every dog was imposed, with the object of lessening the number of dogs and diminishing the danger from hydrophobia. It realized 3,473l.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The revenue of 1895 was 598,884l. exceeding the revenue of 1894 (which had been the largest ever collected) by 12,979l. The expenditure was 605,514l., the apparent deficit of 6,630l. being occasioned by expenditure from the surplus in hand. The sum of 29,634l. accrued from the Pitch Lake.

Assets and Liabilities.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1895.

5

5. The assets of the Colony on the 31st of December 1895 were 433,091l.; the liabilities 345,314l. There was thus a cash credit balance of 87,777l., in addition to stores in stock, estimated at 30,3021.

Public Debt.

6. The debt outstanding on the 31st of December was 563,507%, as follows: -

Railway debenture debt . -467,188 Public works and road extension loan 96319

7. The authorised loan of 600,000l. for railway extension and other public works has not yet been raised, but considerable progress has been made with some of the works, the expenditure being met from the cash balance and by advances from the Crown Agents.

Legislation.

8. Forty-seven Ordinances were enacted during the year, the principal being Ordinances relating to the sale of goods, to the registration of titles to lands, and to procedure in respect of offences punishable on summary conviction.

Vital Statistics

9. The estimated population at the end of 1895 was 237,934 of whom 84,503 were East Indians. The births numbered 8,059. and the deaths 5,876, or 34.8 and 25.3 per 1,000 respectively. The health of the Island was good; as good or better, in fact, than that of some parts of the United Kingdom, and no epidemic of any kind prevailed. Among the deaths registered were four persons of the reputed ages of 110, 111, 125, and 131 years.

Immigration.

10. Immigrants to the number of 2,766 were introduced from India during the year, and 8721 were returned at the expiration of their period of service in the Colony, the latter carrying with them 11,077l. in cash, besides their jewellery.

11. Since the establishment of the immigration system in 1845, 12,615 immigrants have returned to India, taking with them

savings to the amount of 221,115l.

12. The unremunerative price of sugar and the depreciation in other staples rendered it necessary for the Government to come to the assistance of the planters, and a special grant of 9,599%. was made towards the cost of immigration, in addition to the usual one-third Government contribution.

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Ecclesiastical.

13. The following table gives the places of worship of each denomination:—

Denomin	ation.		No. of Places of Worship.	Accommodation
Roman Cathol	ic -	-	61	18,544
Anglican		•	49	9,970
Wesleyan		-,	13	4,230
Presbyterian	-	-	8	2,375
Baptist -	-	-	22	1,112
Total	490		153	36,231

14. The annual ecclesiastical grant of 10,600l. is apportioned as follows:—

				£	S.	d.
Roman Catholic C	hurch		-	6,155	10	0
Anglican -		-	-	3,917	0	0
Wesleyan -		-	_	527	10	0

Education.

15. The amount expended on elementary education was 30,994l, being some 3,500l more than the expenditure of 1894. The total reimbursements amounted to 1,776l.

16. The sum of 15,961l. was paid in grants to 126 assisted schools

with an average attendance of 9,528 scholars.

17. There were 21,895 children on the rolls of elementary schools, with an average attendance of 13,890. The following table will show how these were distributed between the Government and the various denominational schools.

	No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars on Roll.	Average Attendance.
Assisted Schools:			
Roman Catholic -	55	6,980	4,333
Church of England -	29	4,375	2,940
Presbyterian (Canadian Mis-	37	2,885	1,796
sion). Wesleyan	4	617	424
Baptist	1	54	35
Totals - Assisted Schools -	126	14,911	9,528
" Government Schools -	. 61	6,984	4,362
" All Schools	187	21,895	13,890

18. The existing dual system continues to be costly, and to some extent unsatisfactory, but it seems difficult under present conditions to alter it for the better. The cost to the Government of each scholar in average attendance during the year was, in the Government schools 2l. 6s. 11d., and in the assisted schools 1l. 13s. 6d.

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19. A commission which sat during the year has recommended the adoption of a system of free and compulsory education. The question ultimately resolves itself into one of cost, and it will be for the Legislature, who will shortly be consulted, to consider how far the recommendations of the commission can be adopted.

Imports and Exports.

20. The following table gives the figures relating to the imports and exports for 1895, and the five previous years:—

				Imp	oorts.	Exports.		
	Ye	ar.		Total Value.	Value, exclusive of Bullion and Specie.	Total Value.	Value, exclusive of Bullion and Specie.	
7.000	twey and			£	£	£	£	
1890		-		2,248,893	1,831,803	2,179,432	1,765,931	
1891	10.00m	-	-	2,096,797	1,793,535	2,058,761	1,716,851	
1892	- 17	-	-	2,089,380	1,861,027	2,258,063	2,005,277	
1893	ed du		-	2,270,885	1,987,071	2,320,824	1,941,171	
1894		-	-	2,152,883	1,869,330	2,000,748	1,726,963	
1895	1	-	-	2,276,864	2,040,872	2,065,104	1,791,867	

21. The following tables give the value and direction of trade during the years 1894 and 1895:—

Imports.

From	1894.	1895.	
		£	
United Kingdom	System of the	835,185	988,553
British Colonies	•	207,070	253,095
United States of America -	-	446,387	443,477
Venezuela		431,010	395,788 }
Other foreign countries -	M- 50 (m) 4	233,231	195,951
Total -	1.000	2,152,883	2,276,864

TRINIDAD
AND
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1895.

Exports.

То				1894.	1895.
United Kingdom -				£ 831,700	£ 907,493
British Colonies -		10	-	54,099	56,558
United States of America	-		-	558,863	563,912
Venezuela	-		-	189,556	189,636
Other foreign countries			-	366,530	347,505
Total -				2,000,748	2,065,104

22. The classes of imports and exports were as follows during the year 1895:—

			Imports.	Exports.
Live animals, food and drink	NC A	-	£ 876,282	£ 1,485,987
Raw material	•	-	48,498	113,792
Manufactured articles -		-	1,116,092	192,088
Coin and bullion	•	-	235,992	273,237
Total			2,276,864	2,065,104

23. The following table gives the total quantities and values of the more important staples exported during the last five years:—

			Sug	ar.	Coc	oa.	Aspl	nalt.	
		Year.		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
1891	•			lbs. 101,601,371	£ 662,789	lbs. 16,188,493	£ 439,786	tons. 95,990	£ 105,961
1892		•		110,583,154	675,342	25,041,635	648,103	112,224	121,631
1893				101,140,361	757,937	19,106,553	535,055	90,203	98,572
1894		0,10		104,986,406	598,010	21,608,384	587,564	99,192	112,401
1895				122,353,755	596,415	29,458,813	620,634	86,148	97,318

24. The following table shows the countries to which the principal staples were exported:—

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1895.

			United Kingdom.	France.	United States of America.	Other Countries.	Total.
Sugar -			£ 327,412	£ 2,589	£ 263,604	£ 2,810	£ 596,415
Molasses		-	2,265		-	40,286	42,551
Rum -		-	10,409	36	-	10	10,455
Cocoa -	P.T.	, -	251,891	233,733	131,103	3,907	620,634
Cocoanuts			23,497	-	874	596	24,967
Asphalt	ned .	-	9,518	698	. 69,668	17,434	97,318
Bitters -			9,855	784	17,264	12,226	40,129
Total		-	634,847	237,840	482,513	77,269	1,432,469

- 25. Owing to the changes made in the tariff, and the disturbance of trade consequent upon the disastrous fire which occurred in the business centre of Port-of-Spain early in the year, it is difficult to draw any useful comparison between the import returns and those of previous years. Imports, exports (except asphalt, on which there was a decrease) and production, all increased appreciably, as the figures given show.
- 26. The number of vessels entered and cleared during the year was 5,026, with a capacity of 1,291,855 tons. These, and the other statistics relating to shipping, include the Tobago returns.
- 27. The following tables show the countries from which these vessels arrived, and the destinations for which they cleared:—

Entered.

	Sa	iling.	St	eam.	Total.	
From	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
United Kingdom	36	25,021	103	149,212	139	174,233
United States of America	48	19,732	28	38,857	76	58,589
British North America	30	4,443	12	13,085	42	17,528
British West Indies and British Guiana.	584	39,801	141	150,342	725	190,143
French West Indies	49	5,995	24	35,185	73	41,180
Venezuela	1,247	13,905	128	86,886	1,375	100,791
Other countries	44	18,053	38	48,568	82	6,621
Total	2,038	126,950	474	522,135	2,512	649,085

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1895.

Cleared.

	Sai	Sailing.		eam.	Total.		
То	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
United Kingdom	51	22,533	25	30,763	76	53,296	
United States of America	80	44,166	38	52,080	118	96,246	
British North America	11	2,435	, 17	20,751	28	23,186	
British West Indies and British Guiana.	546	25,134	174	191,308	720	216,442	
French West Indies	38	2,894	18	25,990	56	28,884	
Venezuela	1,258	12,652	191	185,179	1,449	197,831	
Other countries ·	59	16,880	8	10,505	67	26,885	
Total	2,343	126,194	471	516,576	2,514	642,770	

28. The nationality of the vessels which entered and cleared is shown in the following table:—

sion of March State Charles	apir s	Sailing.			eam.	Total.		
Nationality.	1	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
British	- 1,5	228 .	97,556	555	735,097	1,783	832,653	
French	•	30	3,722	111	142,988	141	146,710	
United States	. ;	178	75,596	58	9,829	236	85,425	
Venezuelan	- 2,	469	22,832	130	62,375	2,599	85,207	
Dutch	13.0 80.0	30	2,897	73	76,480	103	79,377	
Norwegian	•	53	21,549	14	7,978	67	29,527	
Other countries	-	93	28,992	4	3,964	97	32,956	
Total	- 4,0	081	253,144	945	1,038,711	5,026	1,291,855	

Agriculture.

29. The area of the Colony is estimated to be 1,120,000 acres, of which 433,843 acres have been alienated from the Crown. Grants amounting to 6,894 acres and 62 village lots were made during the year. The acreage under cultivation is estimated at 200,000 acres, made up as follows:—

	#				Acres.
Sugar cane	9			-	58,500
Cocoa	-	•	21		97,000
Coffee -	-	- m		-	1,000
Cocoanuts	-			-	14,000
Provisions	-	-		-	13,500
Pastures -	1				10,000
Other products	-	•		-	6,000

Criminal Statistics.

TRINIDAD
AND
TOBAGO
1895.

30. The number of convictions in the magistrates' courts was 12,892, and in the Supreme Court 106, making a total of 12,998. This shows a proportion of 5.6 per cent. to the population, which is slightly in excess of the average.

31. The following table compares the state of crime during the

last five years:-

idd yfre mail All	4	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Offences		16,169	15,043	16,831	15,779	18,238
Apprehensions		16,835	16,808	19,793	20,468	21,037
Convictions: By the Magistrate -		9,668	10,464	11,549	12,262	12,892
In Superior Courts -		145	108	117	115	106

32. There was one conviction for murder.

33. The average daily number in the prisons was 508. The cost of each prisoner, after deducting the value of his labour, was $5\frac{1}{2}d$. per day.

34. The numbers in detention on the 31st of December 1895

were :-

In the prisons - - 449 men, 40 women.

In the reformatories - 119 boys, 45 girls.

568 85

35. There were also 120 boys and 94 girls in the industrial schools.

Savings Banks.

36. These banks, comprising the central bank in Port-of-Spain, with nine branches in the country districts, continue to bear evidence to the material prosperity of the peasantry.

37. There were 9,580 depositors on the 31st of December 1895, being an increase of 1,243 over the previous year, and the

transactions of the year were as under:-

38. There are sixty-one friendly societies in the Colony.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGÓ. 1895.

General Remarks.

39. As previously stated, the health of the Island was good. The rainfall of the year was 62.23 inches, 3.68 inches below the average. The mean temperature was 78.6.

40. During my absence from the Colony from July to November the Government was administered by the Colonial Secretary, the

Hon. C. C. Knollys, C.M.G.

41. A disastrous fire occurred in March, completely destroying the business part of the town of Port-of-Spain, and doing damage to the extent of half a million sterling. But for the ready and valuable aid of the officers and men of the United States squadron under Admiral Meade, and of H.M.S. "Buzzard" (Captain Farquhar, R.N.), then in the harbour, the calamity must have been far greater than it was. Her Majesty's gracious telegram expressing sympathy with the sufferers from the fire was much appreciated.

42. I am pleased to be able to state that at the present moment there remain but few traces of this great fire. The premises destroyed have, in every instance, been replaced by better buildings, while the widening of Frederick Street and the uniformity of the new buildings have materially improved the principal business

thoroughfare of the city.

43. There has been much activity in the Department of Public Works during the year. The line of railway (12 miles 72 chains) running from Arima to Sangre Grande is nearly completed, and construction work is advancing on the line from Chaguanas to Tabaquite (15 miles 6 chains). Messrs. Gregory and Eyles, the consulting engineers, are represented by an efficient local staff Much needed improvements have under Mr. Oliver, M.I.C.E. been commenced in the harbour of Port-of-Spain under the supervision of Messrs. Coode, Son, and Matthews. Steps are being taken to carry out schemes recommended by Mr. Osbert Chadwick, C.M.G., for the improvement of the water supply of the three boroughs, and the additions to the Government buildings in Port-of-Spain and the work of erecting the new lunatic asylum are well advanced. The work of reclaiming the "insanitary corner" of Port-of-Spain harbour, so long injurious to public health, was undertaken and completed.

44. The news that Her Majesty had been pleased to confer the honour of the K.C.M.G. on the venerable Dr. (now Sir Louis) de Verteuil, the late senior unofficial member of the Legislative Council, was received with appreciation by the entire community.

45. I append the report of the Commissioner of Tobago (the Hon. W. Low) on the returns relating to that island, which was visited during the year both by the Acting Governor and myself. Its finances and general condition are, I think, slowly improving.

46. The question of an introduction of the elective element into the political constitution of the Island led to discussion, which was closed by your concurrence with the majority of the Legislative Council that change was inexpedient.

47. Petitions against the foreign sugar bounties were forwarded and have been receiving the attention of Her Majesty's Government.

TRINIDAD
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TOBAGO.
1895.

48. The contract with the Royal Mail Company for the conveyance of the West Indian mails was extended (on nearly unaltered terms) to the wear 1000

unaltered terms) to the year 1900.

49. The electric light was introduced, by a locally formed company, into many of the streets and houses of Port-of-Spain, including the Governor's residence, which has been fitted with a very handsome installation.

50. The newly-established Road Boards worked well, and their

number was increased from four to seven.

51. The year 1895 was a good one for the Colony. There was a bustle and stir of general progress. The prices of sugar were at first very low, but bettered later, and there was a good crop. The cocoa crop was very good indeed.

52. Trinidad was distinctly on the up-grade during 1895, and I am happy to say that it has continued there to the present date.

I have, &c.

F. NAPIER BROOME.

TOBAGO.

REPORT BY THE COMMISSIONER ON THE TOBAGO BLUE BOOK FOR 1895.

At the close of 1895 there was an actual balance in the chest of 5851. 3s. 9d.

The Revenue from all sources during 1895, including the balance of 212l. 7s. 6d. brought forward from 1894, was 8,803l. 4s. 9d.

The total expenditure was 8,218l. 1s. This expenditure includes a sum of 32ll. 7s. 1d. for various necessary services unforeseen at the time of the framing of the Estimates for 1895.

Assets and Liabilities.

The Public Debt of 5,000l. is still due to Trinidad. The

interest at 4 per cent. is regularly paid.

The excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st December 1895 (excluding this sum of 5,000*l*.) was 106*l*. The debt of 2,000*l*. (in round numbers) due to the Crown Agents in 1893 has been paid off.

Legislation.

Only eight Regulations were passed by the Financial Board in 1895. Neither of them call for special notice, being purely local in their operation.

TRINIDAD
AND
TOBAGO.
1895

Civil Establishment.

Several small offices were abolished in 1895, resulting in a saving of 255l. A total reduction on establishments since 1893 amounts to about 1,000l.

Vital Statistics.

Tobago maintained its good name for healthiness and salubrity of climate in this year. All who visit it contrast its balmy breezes with the heat and stuffiness of some of the other West India Islands. The estimated population at close of 1895 was 20,039.

Imports.

The imports into Tobago as shown by the Blue Book return

were 13,643l. 4s. 1d., or 1,800l. less than in 1894.

The true figures of the imports cannot be furnished, as goods purchased in Trinidad are brought in here without report owing to the two Islands being one for trade purposes. The imports from the United Kingdom were 8,820l. 11s. 2d. as against 9,178l. 19s. 4d. in 1894.

Exports.

The exports shown amount to 10,517l. as against 15,872 in 1894. This large apparent decrease is due to the fact that specie sent out of the Island is treated as an export. In 1894 specie amounting to 4,963l. was sent to England, while in 1895 only 563l. was exported. Exports of cocoa, sugar, &c., to Trinidad are also omitted from the return. The exports to Trinidad amounted to 11,626l. 16s.

Criminal Statistics.

During the year 484 cases were reported to the Magistrate resulting in 311 summary convictions. There were on y three persons tried before the superior courts in 1895, two of whom were convicted. The offences were perjury and abandonment of a child.

Agriculture.

The unfortunate continuance of the depressed condition of the sugar and cocoa markets seriously affects this little place. The labourers are naturally disinclined to extend the cultivation of plots of land with sugar cane, and as most of the present estate holders are almost dependent on the share of sugar they receive from the Metayers with which to pay their taxes, &c., the outlook is not very encouraging.

Coffee could be cultivated under the most favourable circumstances here. Land is cheap and fertile, and grants of Crown Land would be made to persons possessed of the necessary capital on the easiest of terms. The land tax is only five pence per acre,

the smallest in the West Indies.

495

Traces to the Crown lands are now being opened and the roads improved, the loan of 10,000*l*. having now been sanctioned by the Secretary of State. The advantages of good roads are too apparent to need special mention, and it is hoped that their improved condition will induce the peasants to extend the cultivation of cocoa and coffee.

Trinidad And Tobago. 1895.

Government House, Tobago, May 11, 1896. WM. Low, Commissioner.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 201.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 181.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

August 1897.



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1897.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.				Year.
169	Zululand	•••			1895
170	Sierra Leone	***			,,
171	Gibraltar			•••	99
172	Malta		37		"
173	Barbados				,,
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	•••		***	, ,,
175	Falkland Islands			*	"
176	St. Helena				27
177	Bahamas				99
178	Hong Kong				,,,
179	Windward Islands		•••		25
180	Labuan				,
181	Trinidad and Tobago		• • •		"
182	Seychelles			•••	,,,
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues		• • •	•••	1894 and
					1895
184	British Honduras		•••	• • • •	1895
185	Lagos		•••	•••	,,,
186	Basutoland				1895–96
187	Ceylon				1895
188	British Guiana				1895–96
189	Gold Coast				1895
190	Jamaica		•••		1895–96
191	Canada				1895
192	Bermuda ···	•••	•••		1896
193	Bahamas	••••		•••	"
194	Zululand				,,
195	Gambia	•••	•••	•••	"
196	Malta		•••		"
197	British New Guinea			•••	1895-96
198	Turks and Caicos Islands				1896
199	Barbados	•••			, ,,
200	Leeward Islands	•••			1895

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	arto d	Subject.		
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.	
2	Zululand			Forests.	
2 3	Sierra Leone			Geology and Botany.	
4	Canada		Ø	Emigration.	
4 5	Bahamas			Sisal Industry.	
6	Hong Kong			Bubonic Plague.	
7	Newfoundland			Mineral Resources.	
8	Western Pacific			Solomon Islands.	

No. 201.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 181 of this Series.)

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896.

GOVERNOR SIR H. E. H. JERNINGHAM to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, 17th June, 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book Report of the Colony for the year 1896, which has been prepared in the

Colonial Secretary's office.

2. I do not consider myself sufficiently competent as yet to offer any remarks of mine on this report, but it appears to me to be very complete and to have been drafted with great care.

1 have, &c.,
HUBERT E. H. JERNINGHAM,
Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE COLONY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO FOR THE YEAR 1896.

Taxes and Duties.

The following are the Customs Duties on Imports:-

			Ra	te un	nder	
Articles,		nce				
			No. 1	8 of	1895.	
			£		d.	
Bread, all kinds, the barrel	•••		0		0	
Boots and Shoes, for every £100	•••		-	0	0	
Bricks, the 1, 00		•••	0		0	
Butter, Ghee, &c	•••	• • •	0	0	1	
Carriages on springs, 4 wheels each			7	0	()	
,, 2 ,,	***		4		0	
Cheese, the pound	•••	,	0	0	1	
Cement, the barrel			0	0	6	
Coconuts, the 1,000	•••	• • •	0		0	
Coal and Coke, the ton		,	1	Free)	
Corn—all kinds, including Oats, the	bushel		0	0	4	
14178*—75—7/97 Wt 20613 D & S 5						

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896

Taxes and Duties - continued.

Articles.	01	rdine	12 1 22
		,	1895.
Dogs, each	£ 0	10	d. 0
Fireworks, the pound	0	1	3
Flour, the barrel 196 lbs	0	3	4
	0	0	7
Gunpowder, the pound	5	0	0
Earthen and Glass ware, every £100	5	0	0
Furniture, every £100	0	4	2
Lard and its Compounds, 100 lbs	U	*	4
Liquors, vizt.:—			
Malt-in Wood, the gallon	0	0	10
,, in Bottles, the dozen reputed quart			
bottles	0.	1	6
Methylated Spirits, gallon	0	1	6
All other Spirits, Strong Waters, &c., gallon	0	10	6
Wines in bottle:			
Sparkling Wines, the gallon	0	6	O
All other Wines—42 per cent., the gallon	0	3	3
Wings in Wood 22 dagrees	0	1	3
39	U	1	9
19	0	3	3
Matches—Lucifer, per gross of boxes"	0	2	6
Match Splints, 10 gross of Matches	Õ	12	6
Meal or other Flour	0	1	6
Muskets, Guns, &c., each	0	5	0
	5	0	0
Oil—Creosote, every £100 value	0	1	3
" Coconut, the gallon	0	0	9
" Petroleum "	0	1	3
" Lard "	0	1	3
,, All others ,,	0		
Oleomargarine, the pound	0	0	$0\frac{1}{2}$
Opium, the pound		15	0
Oxen, Bulls and Cows		10	0
Patent Fuel, the ton		Fre	
Rice, the 100 lbs	0	2	2
Slates, Flag Stones and Tiles, the 1,000	0	4	2
Soap, the 100 lbs	0	2	1
Sugar, the 100 lbs	0	10	0
Tea, the pound	0	0	6
Timber, the 1,000 feet	0	8	4
Shingles, the 1,000	0	1	6
Shooks, the bundle	0	0	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Staves, the 1,000	0	6	0
Wood Hoops, the 1,000	0	3	0
Tobacco—Unmanufactured, the pound	0	1	3
" Cigars and Cigarettes, the pound	0	5	0
" All other Manufactured, the pound	0	3	0

TRINIDAD

AND TOBAGO.

Taxes and Duties—continued.

Rate under Articles. Ordinance No. 18 of 1895. Textiles, Manufactured, Wearing Apparel, 0 Goods, Wares, Merchandize, etc.,

1896.

0

The only change under this head was the imposition of a small due on shipping in order to meet the charges on the loan for harbour improvements.

Other

the £100

Revenue and Expenditure.

2.	The revenue for the year	1896	was		•••	£618,332
	The expenditure was	•••	•••	•••	•••	594,462
	Showing a surplus of				***	£23,870

3. The following table compares the revenue and expenditure for the last five years :-

		Year.		Revenue.	Expenditure
1892				563,983	554,190
1893	 	 	 	 549,398	530.348
1894	 	 	 	 585,905	537,775
1895	 	 	 	 598,884	605,514
1896	 	 	 	 618,332	594,462

4. The Assets of the Colony on the 31st December, 1896, were £597,974 The Liabilities, excluding the Public Debt, were 491,900 Showing a balance in favour of the Colony of... £106.074

Of this, the sum of £96,718 consisted of cash or immediately realizable investments.

Public Debt.

5. During 1896, Debentures amounting to £11,880 were paid off, leaving the Public Debt at £556,288, as follows:—

Railways					£461,101*
Roads, etc.	•••	•••	•••	•••	95,187
		Total			£556,288

^{*£346,200} converted, in October 1896, into Trinidad 4% Inscribed Stock.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896.

The various loans forming this debt amounted originally to £712,000 of which there has been paid off, or remains to credit in the Sinking Fund, the sum of £155,711.

6. The authorized loan of £600,000 for railway extension and public works has not yet been raised. The expenditure on the works now in progress, which to the 31st December amounted to £232,738, has been met from the cash balance, and by advances from the Crown Agents. The Government finances are in a sound condition.

Legislation.

7. During the year 34 Or linances were enacted, besides which on the 27th of July, the Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws relating to Immigration was passed, after having been before the Legislative Council 13 times. This Ordinance has not yet been confirmed.

Official Changes.

8. On the 1st of October, owing to the state of his health, Sir F. Napier Broome, K.C.M.G., left the Colony on leave, and his death, universally regretted took place in England on the 26th of November. Mr. C. C. Knollys, C.M.G., administered the Government from the 1st October, 1896, to 2nd June, 1897. The only other change of importance was the resignation of Mr. C. Mitchell of the post of Protector of Immigrants, and the appointment of Commander W. H. Coombs, R.N., as his successor.

Population and Vital Statistics.

General Population.

9.	Estimated population at end of	1895		237,934
	Births registered in 1896		8,175	
	Deaths registered in 1896	•••	6,433	
	Natural increase			1,742
	Arrivals recorded by Harbour 1896		$\dots 25,155$	
	Departures recorded by Harbonin 1896		ster 16,427	
	III 1000			
	Increase by Immigration			8,728
	Estimated resulation at and of	1806		248,404
	Estimated population at end of	1000		210,101

East Indian Population.

1

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896.

0.	The estimated number	r of E	Cast Indi	ans		
	at end of 1895, was	• • •	•••			78,899
	Registered births				2,677	
	" deaths	•••	•••		1,977	
	Natural increase	•••		•••		700
	1mmigrants from Indi	a			3,086	
	Emigrants to India			•••	712	
	Increase by Immign	ation				2,374
	Total Number of 31st December			011		81,973
	Population other than	East	Indian			166,431
	East Indian populatio	n	•••			81,404
	Total			•••		248,404

- 11. The number of births gives a birth-rate of 33.7 per 1,000. The birth-rate for England is 34 per 1,000. The percentage of illegitimacy among the general births was 58.1, and of still-births, 8.4.
- 12. The death-rate was 26.5 per 1,000 against 25.3 in 1895, and 25.5 in 1894. The death-rate of England is 18.7; of Italy, 25.2; and of Spain, 32.7. The ratio of deaths of infants under one year of age was 22.6 per cent. of the total deaths. The similar return for England gives 15.9 per cent. Two deaths resulted from snake bites, and eleven from the stings of scorpions.

Immigration.

- 13. The number of new immigrants introduced from India during the year was 3.086. The number of indentured immigrants on estates was 10.620 while the total number of the Indian population was 81,973. The cost of the Immigration Department for the year was £51,980.
- 14. One ship left for India taking 712 return immigrants. These deposited in the Treasury for remittance the sum of £4,542, besides taking jewelry valued at £5 0.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896.

Ecclesiastical.

15. The following Table gives the number of Places of Worship of each Denomination:—

SECT.					No. of Places of Worship.	Accommodation	
Roman Catho	lic				61	18,544	
Anglican				,	 - 50	10,540	
Wesleyan	;				 13	4,230	
Presbyterian		.,,			 8	2,375	
Baptist	,				 22	1,112	
Тота	L	***	.,,	•••	 154	36,801	

The Christian population of the Island was estimated to be 170,000.

Education .- Primary.

16. The total expenditure on Elementary Education amounted to £32,756 as follows:—

iou as ionovis.				
Government Schools				£10,417
Assisted Schools				17,338
Training Schools				1,929
Administration, etc.	•••	•••		3,072
TOTAL				£32,756
	N. Links		THE THE	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

The cost to the Government of each scholar in average attendance was, in Government Schools, £2 6s. 6d. and in Assisted Schools £1 14s. 7d.

17. The following Table gives a summary of the attendance:-

			No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars on Roll.	Average Attendance.
Assisted Schools:					
Roman Catholic			56	7,175	4,579
Church of England			31	4,833	3.120
Presbyterian (Canadian Indian.	Miss	sion)	38	3,041	1,888
Wesleyan	•••		4	648	439
TOTAL		J	129	15,697	10,026
GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS			60	6,783	4.478
GRAND TOTAL			189	22,480	14,504

Secondary.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, 1896.

18. There are two schools for secondary education. The Queen's Royal College, which is a Government Institution and undenominational, had 89 pupils, while the St. Mary's College, which is Roman Catholic, had 180 pupils.

Imports and Exports.

19. The following table gives the figures relating to the Imports and Exports for 1896 and the four previous years:--

				Імр	ORTS.	EXPORTS.			
	YEA	R.	Total e Value. of		Value exclusive of Bullion and Specie.	Total Value.	Value exclusive of Bullion and Specie.		
			X 7.0	£	£	£	£		
1892				2,089,380	1,861,027	2,258,063	2,005,277		
1893				2,270,885	1,987,071	2,320,824	1,941,171		
1894				2,152,883	1,869,330	2,000,748	1,726,963		
1895				2,276,264	2,040,872	2,065,104	1,791,867		
1896				2,463,525	2,188,189	2,165,820	1,896,748		

20. The following tables give the value and direction of trade during the years 1895 and 1896:—

Imports.

FROM	1896.	1895.			
				£	£
United Kingdom	•••	•••		978,565	988,553
British Colonies				241,438	253,095
United States of America				458,440	443,477
Venezuela				524,042	395,788
Other Foreign Countries	•••			261,040	195,951
TOTAL			-	2,463,525	2,276,864

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896.

Exports.

То			LO B ON A	1896.	1895.
United Kingdom				£ 943,888	£ 907,493
British Colonies				40,129	56,558
United States of America	the La			669,950	563,912
Venezuela				209,727	189,636
Other Foreign Countries		•••	•••	302,126	347,505
TOTAL				2,165,820	2,065,104

21. The class of Imports and Exports were as follows during the year 1896:—

				IMPORTS.	EXPORTS.
Live Animals, Food and Dr	ink	•••		£ 939,847	£ 1,426,322
Raw Material			 	184,444	255,721
Manufactured Articles .	•		 39.00	1,063,898	214,705
Coin and Bullion			 4.00	275,336	269,072
TOTAL .			 	2,463,525	2,165,820

22. The following table gives the total quantities and values of the more important staples exported during the last five years:—

V	Suga	R.	Coco	A.	ASPHALT.		
YEAR.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
Pur hope	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	tons,	£	
1892	110,583,154	675,342	25,041,635	648,103	112,224	121,631	
1893	101,140,361	757,937	19,106,553	535,055	90,203	98,572	
1894	104,986,406	598,010	21,608,384	587,564	99,192	112,401	
1895	122,353,755	596,415	29,458,813	620,634	86,148	97,318	
1896	120,562,942	700,347	23,481,348	452,141	96,385	106,920	

23. The directions in which the staples of the Island were apported, and their values, were as follows:—

AND TOBAGO 1896.

	United Kingdom.		France.	United States of America.	Other Countries.	Total.	
***************************************			£	£	£	£	£
Sugar			432,398	10 - 10	257,385	10,564	700,347
Molasses			5,911		,	30,577	36,488
Rum			5,696		11	193	5,900
Cocoa	•••		178,697	164,164	87,951	21,329	452,141
Coconuts		•••	24,013		1,340	844	26,197
Asphalt	•••	•••	6,508	4,656	74,334	21,422	106,920
Bitters			8,633	52 3	11,512	10,978	31,646
Тот	AL	•••	661,856	169,343	432,533	95,907	1,359,639

Shipping.

- 24. The number of vessels entered and cleared during 1896, was 5,632, with a total tonnage of 1,242,278.
- 25. The following tables show the countries from which vessels arrived, and to which they departed:—

	Ent	ered.			Entered.												
Thous	SA	ILING.	Si	EAM.	To	TOTAL.											
FROM	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.											
United Kingdom	29	11,655	71	109,021	100	120,676											
United States of America	39	19,174	30	43,440	69	62,614											
British North America	36	4,519	12	14,049	48	18,568											
British West Indies and British Guiana.	600	38,508	152	170,593	752	209,101											
Venezuela	1,563	16,449	129	100,678	1,692	117,127											
Other countries	113	37,514	43	57,641	156	95,155											
TOTAL	2,380	127,819	437	495,422	2,817	623,241											

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896. Cleared.

	SA	ILING.	Si	TEAM.	TOTAL.	
То	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
United Kingdom	57	21,465	16	20,517	73	41,982
United States of America	63	37,121	27	37,475	90	74,596
British North America	15	2,715	12	14,119	27	16,834
British West Indies and British	564	20,298	177	195,649	741	215,947
Guiana. French West Indies	51	5,104	17	25,546	68	30,650
Venezuela	1,574	18,960	172	182,223	1,746	201,183
Other countries	54	20,435	16	17,410	70	37,845
TOTAL	2,378	126,098	437	492,939	2,815	619,037

26. The nationality of the vessels which entered is shown in the following table:—

				SA	ILING.	ST	EAM.	TOTAL.	
NATION	IALIT	Y.		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British				643	41,399	259	345,190	902	386,589
French				25	2,862	57	72,121	82	74,983
United States				64	34,258	27	4,031	91	38,289
Venezuela			•••	1,539	13,656	56	33,010	1,595	46,666
Dutch				. 16	2,106	33	35,622	49	37,728
Norwegian				27	9,182	2	2,095	29	11,277
Other countries				66	24,356	3	3,353	69	27,709
TOTAL				2,380	127,819	437	495,422	2,817	623,241

Crown Lands.

27. The total area of the Colony is estimated at 1,120,000 acres. Of this 438,234 acres have been alienated, while there still remains 681,766 acres of Crown Land. The upset price of Crown Land is 30s. per acre which covers cost of survey and fees. During the year 407 grants were made, all under 100 acres, containing 4,390 acres. Forty-four village lots were also sold.

Agriculture.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, 1896.

28. The acreage under cultivation is estimated at 200,000 acres, made up as follows:—

: 77						
	0			9	•••	58,500 acres
	Cocoa					97,000 ,,
	Coffee					1,000 ,,
				J		14,000 ,,
	Provisions					13,500 ,,
	Pastures	•••	1			10,000 ,,
	Other products					6,000 ,,

Criminal Statistics.

29. The number of offences reported to the Police was 19,279, against 18,238 during the year 1895. 22,820 persons were apprehended by the Police, or summoned before the Magistrates, of whom 13,978 were summarily convicted, and 141 committed for trial at the Sessions. Of the latter 126 were convicted.

30. The following table compares the state of crime during the

last 4 years :-

		1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
Offences	 	16,831	15,779	18,238	19,279
Apprehensions	 	19,793	20,468	21,037	22,820
Convictions by the Magistrate	 	11,549	12,262	12,892	13,978
In Superior Courts	 	117	115	106	75

31. The large increase in the number of convictions by the Magistrate is due to the stringent enforcement of the laws regarding the desertion of Indian immigrants and the licensing of dogs.

Gaols and Prisons.

32. There are three prisons—the Royal Gaol, Carrera Island, and the Female Prison. The royal Gaol is in the centre of the town and is the head quarters where all prisoners are received. Carrera Island is an island in the Gulf of Paria where there are extensive quarries. To this all except short sentence prisoners are sent. In both these prisons the separate system is in force. The third prison is part of the old Military Barracks and is used as a Female Prison. The daily average during the year was as follows:—

Total				 470
Female Prison	•••		•••	 46
Carrera Island		• •••		 158
Royal Gaol	•••		•••	 226

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896.

Meteorological.

33. The highest temperature recorded at the Botanical Gardens, St. Anne's, during the year 1896, was 91.1 in May, the lowest was 66.7 in February. The mean annual temperature was 79.07.

February was the driest month, with a rainfall of '88 inches. In June most rain fell—10.29 inches. The total rainfall for the year was 66.45 inches. The average rainfall for the last five years—1892 to 1896, was 72.92, while the average for 33 years to 1894, was 67.5 inches. The mean daily height of the Barometer, reduced readings, was 29.956 inches.

Savings Banks.

34. There are ten branches of the Savings Bank in the Colony.

The balance in deposit on 1st January, 1896, was The deposits during the year were	£198,992 169,705
Total The withdrawals during the year were	£368,697 £138,945
Leaving as due to depositors	£229,752

Of this £188,117 is invested in English Funds and Colonial Inscribed Stock, the remainder being cash in hand to meet current transactions.

The number of depositors on the 31st December, was 10,768, being an increase of 576 over the number of the previous year,

and being in the proportion of 1 in 23 of the population.

An amending Ordinance was enacted during the year, which provides among other things for raising the limit of interest bearing deposits from £300 to £500 for ordinary depositors; and for an increase of the amount from £50 to £300, for which appointments can be made.

Friendly Societies.

35. There are 69 registered Friendly Societies, containing 7,529 members and holding funds amounting to £4,544.

Hospitals and Asylums.

36. The following tables give a return of the Government Institutions under this head with the number of inmates on the 31st December, 1896, and the cost of upkeep for the year. This cost does not include the Medical Staff, whose emoluments for the year amounted to £17,691:—

Hospitals.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896.

The state of the s		Number of Inmates on 31st December, 1896.	Cost, exclusive of Medical Staff.
Colonial Hospital, Port-of-Spain		628	£ 13,959
San Fernando Hospital		221	5,988
St. Joseph District Hospital		32	700
T			
	•••	29	712
Arima Hospital	•••	23	683
Chaguanis Hospital		18	588
Couva Hospital		42	751
Princes Town Hospital	<i></i>	29	579
Cedros Hospital		16	415
Mayaro Temporary Hospital			77
TOTAL		1,038	24,452
Asyl	ums.	Number of Inmates on 31st December, 1896.	Cost, exclusive of Medical Staff.
Lunatic Asylum		407	£ 7,422
Leper Asylum		218	4,879
House of Refuge and San Fernando Ali house	ms- 	245	4,230
Total		870	16,531
37. Total Expenditure of the Medical Staff Clerical and Store Staff Hospitals Asylums Vaccination			217,691 $1,458$ $24,452$ $16,531$ $1,381$
Various Total		<u>á</u>	$\frac{3,290}{264,803}$

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896.

Hospitals.

38. The number remaining in the Hospitals on 31st December, 1895 Number admitted during the year 1896	914 14,712
Total number treated during the year Number discharged 13,003 , died 1,585	15,626 14,588
,, remaining on 31st December, 1896 Daily average throughout the year Percentage of deaths on number treated	$\frac{1,038}{977}$ 10.14

There was a marked increase in the number of admissions during the months August to January over the remaining six months. This may be accounted for by the fact that these months are generally wet and also that work is not so plentiful or so highly paid.

39. The following is an abstract of Diseases treated in Hospital during the year 1896:—

	TOTAL.			
DISEASE.	Discharged.	Died.		
I.—GENERAL DISEASES.				
Specific:				
a. Febrile Group	2,528	141		
b. Dependent on external agents other than Morbid Poison c. Developmental Diseases	125 439	7 169		
d. Not classified	2,443	363		
IILOCAL DISEASES.	1323433			
1. Nervous System	332	81		
2. Eye	388			
3. Ear	19	1		
4. Nose	26	2		
5. Circulatory System	108	65		
6. Respiratory "	730	135		
7. Digestive "	1,593	492		

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO 1896.

513

	TOTAL.			
DISEASE.	Discharged.	Died.		
8. Lymphatic System	48	•••		
9. Thyroid Body		•••		
10. Urinary System	172	74		
11. Generative System	518	8		
a. Affections connected with Pregnancy b. Affections connected with Parturition c. Affections consequent on Parturition d. Diseases of the Female Breast	196 9 7 6	2 ² 1		
12. Organs of Locomotion	97	5.		
13. Connective Tissue	289	2		
14. Skin	1,245	10		
Poisons	40	1		
Injuries	876	26		
No Appreciable Disease	769	e 8 b		
	11,5 6818 7			
Total	13,003	1,585		

40. The following are the most noticeable diseases in the above table:—

Dr	Discharged.	Died.				
Measles	,				68	2
Influenza			•••	•••	33	
Typho-malarial fev	/er				44	14
Yellow Fever		•••				1
larial Fever:				1 1 11		
Intermittent				•••	1,124	6
Remittent	•••				531	68
Remittent Bilious					10	5
Malarial cachexia					160	9
Phthisis Pulmonal	is				204	186
Anœmia					1,303	148
Bronchitis					469	49
Pneumonia	•••				79	57
Dysentery					377	151
Diarrhœa					465	270
Snake Bite					4	1
Scorpion Bite					11	•••
Fish "					3	•••
Dog "					5	

TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO.
1896.

41. The following are the birth-places of those treated in the Hospitals:—

BIRTHPLACE.										
Barbados									2,018	
Grenada		•••							421	
St. Vincent	•••				•••		•••		755	
Trinidad		•••							4,808	
Tobago									407	
Venezuela	•••					•••			181	
India						•			4,698	
Various				•••					2,338	
	To	TAL	•••						15,626	

Lunatic Asylum.

42. Number remaining on 31st December 1895			378
" admitted during 1896	•••		115
			493
, discharged		43	
" died		43	
", died	=		86
remaining on 31st December, 1896			407
Daily average			378
Percentage of deaths on number resident			11.37
of recoveries on number residen	t		30.43

43. The following is the nationality of patients admitted during 1896:—

Birthplace.							Number.
Barbados							11
India		•••		•••	•••		33
Trinidad				•••	•••	•••	49
Various	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	22
	Т	OTAL			•••		115

44. A very fine new Lunatic Asylum is in an advanced stage of building

Leper Asylum.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGC 1896.

19

45. This institution has been considerably enlarged and improved during the year. New quarters for the nursing sisters, two chapels for the Anglican and Roman Catholic services respectively, and two new Wards, were built.

	remainin admitted	g on 31	st Dec	ember,	1895	•••		209 44
"	aumitteu	during	1000	***	***	•••		44
								253
"	discharge	ed		•••			4	
22	died						31	
"								35
"	remainin	g on 31	st Dec	ember,	1896	•••		218
Percenta	age of dea	aths on	numbe	rs treat	ed	•••		12

House of Refuge and San Fernando Alms House.

46. These Institutions are of the nature of work-houses in England. To them are sent those who have no friends and are unable to support themselves.

Number in House of Refuge , in San Fernando Alms House	•••	225 20
		245
Number remaining on 31st December, 1895, admitted during 1896		266 75
		341
Number discharged	28 68	96
Number remaining on 31st December, 1896		245

The average age of those who died at the House of Refuge was 68.

Yaws.

47. An Ordinance to provide for the treatment of Yaws came into force in September. It was feared that this disease was on the increase. The Ordinance provided for the establishment of Dispensaries in the districts most affected, and for the compulsory attendance of patients.

Number treated during four months 260 cured 35() improved, 99 "

14178*

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896.

Vaccination.

18. N	umber o	f births during	1896	 	8,175
	,, 0:	f Vaccinations	•••	 	5,995
Pe	ercentage	e of Vaccination	ns	 	73.

Paupers.

49. Persons certified to be paupers by a responsible officer are entitled to medical attendance free. If a "Poverty Certificate" is given a very small fee is charged.

Number						10,000
Number	g 1896 of P					18,028
	g 1896				•••	7,770
Т	'otal					25,798
Number	treated	as Out	t-patien	ts	•••	21,908
"	sent to	Hospi	tal			3,861
"	,,		of Ref			28
"	"	Leper	Asylun	n	•••	1
						25,798

Public Health.

50. On the whole the health of the Colony for the past year was satisfactory. With the exception of measles and a slight epidemic of influenza the health condition presented no features calling for special comment. The death rate was 26.5 per 1,000.

Tobago.

51. The report on the Tobago portion of this Blue Book, written by the acting Commissioner (Hon. S. W. Knaggs), is attached.

General.

52. The year under review was uneventful. The health of the Island was good. The agricultural depression continued, and towards the close of the year became more acute, especially with regard to the sugar industry. Satisfactory progress was made on the extensive public works which had been commenced in the year 1895.

In spite of the depression in agriculture the revenue of the Colony was satisfactory, and the cash balance in the Treasury was increased by £23,870 being on the 31st December, £106,074.

C. C. KNOLLYS, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, 17th June, 1897.

REPORT ON THE TOBAGO BLUE BOOK.

TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO
1896.

On the 31st December, 1896, there was a balance of £2,580 in the Treasury Chest. This, however, included funds advanced by the Crown Agents on account of the loan; and the actual cash balance of the Colony on that date was £962.

The Revenue actually received was £9,321, which was £871 in excess of the Estimate, and £730 in excess of the Revenue

of 1895.

The total expenditure from general revenue during the year was £9,269 or £819 more than was estimated: this amount was expended on unforeseen services such as Vaccination, Post Office, and the repair of the roads damaged by the heavy rains during November.

Assets and Liabilities.

The Assets on the 31st December were £6,890 and the Liabilities £10,937, shewing a debit of £4,047. This may not be considered a very satisfactory balance sheet, but this excess of liabilities over assets shows a reduction of £425 on the figures of 1895.

£5,000 is still due to Trinidad, on which the interest at 4% is

duly paid.

Legislation.

Only four Regulations were passed by the Financial Board in 1896. None of these are of sufficient importance to require special notice.

Civil Establishment.

Advantage was taken of the removal of the Stipendiary Magistrate, and of the transfer to Trinidad of Mr. H. H. Sealy, the Auditor and Sub-Registrar, to amalgamate these offices, and Mr. J. C. O'Halloran, of the Bahamas Service, was appointed to them in December. In the interim the duties of Stipendiary Magistrate were performed by Major E. B. Walker, Barrister-at-Law.

Imports.

The total Imports were £13,932, a trifling increase on the amount shewn in 1895. As Mr. Low has pointed out in previous reports, these figures do not, it is believed, represent the actual amount of goods coming into Tobago.

Export.

The value of the total Exports shewn amounts only to £9,336. To this, however, must be added a sum of £12,000, the estimated value of the trade between this Island and Trinidad. Owing to the depressed condition of the Sugar market the exportation of that product is diminishing every year, and the general outlook of the industry is by no means cheering.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896.

Criminal Statistics.

The total number of cases reported in 1896 was 588, or 104 more than the previous year. These figures do not, however, mean that there was an increase of crime, but merely that the police have been vigorously prosecuting the owners of unlicensed guns, dogs, &c. There was only one indictment in the Supreme Court during the year for larceny.

Crown Lands.

The peasants have not come forward to purchase these lands as readily as was anticipated, the fact being that they find it much easier to work portions of estate lands on the Metayer System—which really means primarily a vegetable garden and then the growing (it cannot be termed cultivation) of indifferent canes enough to produce two or three barrels of coarse sugar for their use during the remainder of the year.

Loan.

The expenditure under the Loan, on account of which a sum of £4,500 has been advanced by the Crown Agents, has not proceeded as rapidly as was anticipated, the cost of the works executed to the 31st December having amounted only to £2,580. The gradual expenditure of the money, however, enables a closer supervision to be exercised over it, and is in other respects better for the Island. The roads in all directions show evidence of the judicious manner in which the works are being carried out.

General Remarks.

It is but fair to the Commissioner (the Honourable W. Low) to state that on my assumption of office on the 1st instant I found the Blue Book already prepared, and to explain that the foregoing report has been drawn up from notes left by him which he was unable, in consequence of the state of his health at the time of his departure on leave, to complete.

The health of the Island continued good during 1896, and there

is no disease of an unusual or epidemic nature to chronicle.

The continued depression in the staple industry (Sugar) necessi-

tated the most rigid economy in all the departments of the service, and there seems to be but little hope of an immediate improvement in this, although the Usine St. Marie, established in the Sandy Point district by Mr. W. S. Kernahan of Trinidad, has made an apparently successful departure in a new direction. It is to be hoped that if success continues to attend his efforts, the low terms on which good land can be acquired here, the light land tax of five pence an acre, and the possibility of obtaining cheap, though not always reliable, labour, will induce others to turn their attention to this Island.

As regards the material prosperity of the Island, I see nothing to fear for the future when the comparative comfort of the labourers, who are in the majority of cases peasant proprietors, is considered.

The larger land-owners and merchants, and as a consequence the Treasury, which mainly depends upon their contributions, may feel the pinch of the times, but the labourer with his small holding and his few head of stock, supplemented by occasional spells of work on the estates or public roads, finds his existence an easy one. It is this class which contributes chiefly towards the export trade to the sister Island, the particulars of which are given below.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO 1896.

MEMO of Coasting trade between Tobago and Trinidad during 1896.

	Articles.				No.	Estimated Value.
Hogsheads, Sugar			« •		453	£ 274
Puncheons, Molasse	es				1041	157
" Rum	,			•••		
Coconuts					210,520	211
Bags, Cocoa					450	1,350
Bags, Vegetables, Y	ams, &c.		•••		5,112	1,278
Other Vegetable Pr	oducts				530	133
Packages, Fruit					28	14
Dozen Poultry					1,453	1,089
" Eggs …					12,526	626
Furtles	,				27	27
Gallons Coconut Oi	1				6,211	932
Bags, Charcoal					12	2
Pieces, Cedar					36	10
Asses					6	18
Cattle			1		586	2,344
Dogs					52	26
Goats					2,153	861
Horses		•••			65	780
Mules					1	20
Pigs					1,774	1,064
Sheep					338	254
Bunches, Plantains					11,476	574
						£12,044

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1896.

Of course, as Mr. Low has pointed out in a previous report on this subject, the trade is hampered with great difficulties, and the producers have, at no inconsiderable expense, to carry themselves and their stock, &c., to Trinidad, on the chance of making a profitable sale. It is somewhat a matter for surprise that, considering the extent to which the trade has developed, one of the enterprising merchants of Port-of-Spain has not been induced to establish a branch house here with the object of tapping the business at its source. Under such circumstances the trade would no doubt soon increase to yet larger proportions.

No very great strides appear to have been made during the year in the extended cultivation of cocoa, and the services of the Cocoa Instructor were not at first in much requisition, but I am pleased to be able to report that the peasantry have latterly shown more signs of interest in the matter, and a greater desire to avail themselves of, and to profit by, the Instructor's advice. One or two of the larger landed proprietors have lately been extending their horse-breeding operations, and it is hoped that the result of this

will be apparent before long in the increased exportation.

The population of Tobago on the 31st December, 1896, was

estimated at 20,463.

S. W. KNAGGS, Acting Commissioner.

Tobago, 26th April, 1897.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

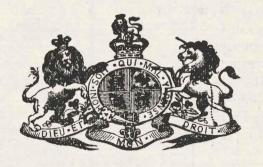
No. 176. ST. HELENA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 154 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

August 1896.



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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Cold	ony.				Year.
142	Malta					1894
143	Gambia	-				"
144	Windward Islands	-			-	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	-	-		-	"
146	Gibraltar -	-		-		"
147	Falkland Islands -	-		-		"
148	Hong Kong -	-	-		_	;,
149	Straits Settlements	-	-		-	,,
150	Lagos	-	-	-	-	"
151	Seychelles	-			-	"
152	Basutoland -	-	-			1894-5
153	Fiji	-		-	-	1894
154	St. Helena -	-	-	-		,,
155	Ceylon	-		-	-	99
156	Mauritius	-			AF -	"
157	Labuan	-	•		-	"
158	Gold Coast -	-			-	"
159	British Guiana -	-		-	-	,,
160	Sierra Leone -	-	-	-	-	99
161	Jamaica -	-	-			1894-8
162	British Honduras -			-	-	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	-			-	1894-8
164	Newfoundland -	-	-			1895
165	Gambia -		-		-	,,
166	Bermuda	-	7 +			"
167	Leeward Islands -	-		10.00		"
168	British New Guinea	•		-	-	1894-
169	Zululand	-		-	-	1895
170	Sierra Leone -	-	-		-	
171	Gibraltar	-	- 1/			"
172	Malta	-		-		"
173	Barbados	-				"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	•	-			"
175	Falkland Islands -					"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony		Subject.				
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.			
2	Zululand -	-	14 17 511	Forests.			
3	Sierra Leone	-		Geology and Botany.			
2 3 4	Canada -		-	Emigration.			
5	Bahamas			Sisal Industry.			
6	Hong Kong		-	Bubonic Plague.			
7	Newfoundland		WEI - 1	Mineral Resources.			

No. 176.

ST. HELENA. 1895.

ST. HELENA.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 154.)

The ACTING GOVERNOR to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Castle, St. Helena, May 29, 1896.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Island for 1895.

The Governor, Mr. Grey-Wilson, C.M.G., administered the Government till the 27th December, when he left on six months' leave of absence, and I assumed the administration under Her

Majesty's Commission dated 23rd September 1895.

I am glad to be able to report continued improvement in the general state of affairs financially and otherwise. There was, however, considerable anxiety during the greater part of the year lest the prolongation of the severe drought from which the Island has for some time suffered should cause serious loss of stock to the farmers, who had already experienced the failure of their hay and potato crops.

All such gloomy forebodings have now been removed by a seasonable fall of rain and there is every prospect of a good

year coming.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the year 1895 was 9,762*l*., which is the largest since the year 1888, and the expenditure was 8,063*l*., leaving a surplus of 1,699*l*. The revenue and expenditure for 1894 and the average of the preceding five years is given below:

	1894.	1889 to 1893.
Revenue	9,162	8,049
Expenditure	- 7,874	8,276

The higher average over revenue arises from deficits in the first three years, since which time there has been a surplus.

o 93180. Wt. 20348.

The following table shows the main heads of income and expenditure.

		1894.	1895.	Increase.	Decrease.	-		1894.	1895.	Increase.	Decrease
Customs -		£ 4,688	£ 5,024	£ 336		Administration	n -	£ 5,224	£ 5,460	£ 236	<u>£</u>
Taxes -		652	752	100		Hospital -	-	881	814	_	67
Rents -	-	794	827	33		Pensions -	-	1,769	1,788	19	-
Post Office	-	1,959	2,021	62		Total -		7,874	8,062		
Other sources		1,069	1,137	68		Surplus -	-	-	1,699	-	
Total -		9,162	9,761	599		Total		_	9,761	255	67

The chief source of revenue being Customs, the increase under this head is the greatest and it is due principally to additional imports of flour and rice, amounting to nearly 3,000 bags, and 1,000 tons of coal. There is nothing to call for special remark as regards the other sources of revenue.

Assets and Liabilities.

The surplus assets of the Colony at the end of the year amounted to 4,1481., the figures being—

Assets - - - - 21,157
Liabilities - - - 17,009

Pensions.

The pension list remained unaltered and is still a heavy charge on the Colony.

Savings Bank.

1894.—Number of depositors 145, amount deposited 7,014l. 1895.,—Number of depositors 164, amount deposited 3,874l.

Although the amount deposited during the year is less than in the preceding one, still the increase in the number of depositors shows a healthy state of affairs and that thrift is on the increase amongst those for whom this class of Bank was specially created.

The value of the investments amounted to 14,0221.

Imports and Exports.

The imports from the United Kingdom amounted to 22,263l. and from the Colonies and elsewhere to 11,481l., total 33,744l., an increase of 1,967l. over 1894, this does not include oil and bone and provisions transhipped by the whaling vessels, which amounted to 8,642l., a considerable decline from the preceding year when oil and bone to the value of 14,717l. were transhipped.

ST. HELENA.

1895.

The importation of beer rose from 173 to 326 hogsheads, and from 234 dozen to 652 dozen, which is, I think, a normal consumption. The decrease of 1894 was probably owing to large stocks in hand, as the imports of the previous year were abnormally high, viz., 366 hogsheads and 1,603 dozens. Wines reached a much lower figure than has been the case for the last four years, being 1,328 gallons less than in the previous year. Spirits increased by 232 gallons. Tobacco showed a slight decrease. The duties on the whole showed a small increase of 84l.

The exports were very trifling, reaching only 334l. after deducting specie to the extent of 3,980l. This is to be deplored, for the export trade in potatoes seemed to be on the increase and had attained to 772l. in 1894. Last year, however, only 109l. worth of potatoes were exported to Ascension; and wool to the extent of 225l. to England.

Shipping.

The number of vessels which have communicated with the Island exclusive of those boarded by licensed traders was 203, which is eight more than in 1894. The following figures show the results of the previous five years which give 207 on the average.

	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Number of vessels -	- 211	211	223	199	195	203

Commander Hewetson, R.N., the harbour master, reports: "I do not anticipate that there will be any decided increase unless "the island is connected to the outer world by a cable. The number of English men-of-war calling was 12, which is one more than in 1894. The ships only stay here a short time on account of their being out of touch with the Admiral."

The vessels boarded by licensed traders were 187 in number, and from these 545 letters were brought ashore and posted. It is probable that many more letters would be posted were the postage reduced from 6d. to $2\frac{1}{2}d$. 464 ships which did not communicate were observed from the signalling stations.

Population and Vital Statistics.

The total population at the time of the last census, in 1891, was 4,116, including garrison and shipping, but it is now estimated at 3,921. The garrison has been increased from 151 men to 204; but emigration has been going on steadily as the Cape Colony offers many inducements to the younger people of this island. The encouragement of this emigration is to be deprecated, for if

St. Helena. 1895. it goes on the labour question will be a serious one, and if any industry on a large scale is attempted, such as the extended cultivation of coffee or fibre, it could hardly be carried out without imported labour. The fishery scheme if accomplished would provide work in a direction where it is most needed, that of the employment of women and children. The female population considerably outnumbers the male. The births are nearly double the deaths, being 29 per 1,000 against 15 per 1,000, which has been the case for years past, and yet the population steadily decreases, and in a way which in time must result in a residue of females and decrepids. Many of the girls are anxious to go to the Cape as domestic servants if they could see their way to finding the passage money, but as long as the present high rate of passage money continues, there can be no relief in this direction.

General Goodenough, when he was here on inspection duty, initiated a fund amongst the soldiers (which now amounts to about 20l.), in order to assist some of the girls to emigrate, and the valuable aid of the Salvation Army here, and at the Cape, has been enlisted to look after the welfare of such girl emigrants whilst on the voyage and on landing, but as yet the fund is not

large enough to be of material service.

A slight epidemic of measles prevailed during the latter end of the year, but it was generally of a mild type; on the whole, the year was healthy.

Hospital.

Dr. Welby was in charge throughout the year, and the general management of the hospital is very good. Miss Williams succeeded Miss Blennerhasset as superintendent, with Miss L. Hart as nurse, and under these two ladies, who are most assiduous in their duties, the management is most satisfactory; 137 patients were admitted and the deaths were 10.

Lunatic Asylum.

Total number of inmates, six.

One was admitted during the year, and there were no deaths. The condition of the asylum and the treatment of the patients is engaging my attention, for I find that hitherto no steps have been taken to amuse or instruct the inmates during their lucid moments.

Education.

There is not much to report under this head, the need for some efficient legislation for the compulsory education of children, who are now running wild about the Island, has resulted in the revision of the Education Ordinance of 1874, and a new Ordinance on this subject will probably be issued during the current year.

ST. HELENA. 1895.

Meteorolggy.

The rainfall at three stations was as follows:—

32.305 ins.: $9\frac{1}{4}$ ins. less than in 1894. Central

East -20.96 , ; $3\frac{1}{2}$ " 23.80 ,, ; 9

The greatest monthly rainfall was 7.940 inches at St. Matthew's Vicarage in June.

The greatest daily fall was 1.260 inches in the same month at

the same place. Dry in comparison with previous year.

The maximum temperature at Woodlands (west) was 80° in March and May, and the minimum at Woodlands (west) 49° in August.

The mean for the year at St. Matthew's Vicarage at 9 a.m. was 62°. The mean maximum and minimum at the same station

were 67° and 57° respectively.

98 per cent. of the year was windy and 2 per cent. calm;

the greatest wind pressure was 8lbs. on the square foot.

The mean pressure of the barometer at 9 a.m. at St. Matthew's Vicarage was 28.132.

Agriculture.

The year under report has not been a good one; the long continued drought had severely affected root crops and pasturage, and the condition of the live stock in the Island when I landed in December was such as to remind me of Pharaoh's lean kine, and the supply of milk and butter had fallen considerably below the demand; the effects of the scarcity of moisture were to be seen everywhere, the hill sides, the fields, and the gardens alike suffered, for the failure of the springs hindered the irrigation of the latter, and many of the cottage farmers lost their usual crops.

The gardens were also infested by insect pests.

The hay crop was a total failure, as also was the potato crop, not even seed potatoes were saved; I think, however, that, apart from natural causes, agriculture in this island has suffered from a want of energy. The arduous cultivation of the soil has given place to the easier task of cattle farming, for the plain reason that the ground in many places is played out for want of manuring, and that as long as beef and mutton are required for the garrison there is a market for live stock, but even this market is limited and the competition has hitherto been great, for contractors could not buy all that the farmers were ready to sell. It seems to me, therefore, a pity that much first class land should be under pasturage, when, at all events, a portion of it should be devoted to crops suitable for fattening purposes. Scientific manuring is a thing almost unknown, and much manure that is available in the island is wasted for want of proper application; I look forward, however, to the newly revived Agricultural Society to do much in the future, already a beginning has been made, although its operations do not come within the year under report. Seeds of

St. Helena. 1895. the newest varieties of root and green crops have been imported, and a general interest has been aroused, which I hope will not be allowed to subside. The fruit crop suffered much during the year from insect foes; peaches, which were abundant, were entirely destroyed by a maggot, the product of a fly which lays its eggs on the unripe fruit, and the larvæ, finding their way into the interior, gather round the stone and grow with the fruit, which in time may ripen and be tempting to the eye, but which would be found a mass of decay on being opened. I estimate that tons of peaches were so destroyed throughout the Island. The tree here being a large standard it is not so easy to apply insecticides as in England, where the peach is chiefly cultivated as a wall fruit. Specimens of the fly, larvæ and pupæ have been sent to England for scientific investigation, and we await with interest the expert's report.

There is a great want of purely insectivorous birds in the Island, especially those that capture their prey on the wing. The birds that have been imported and acclimatized are mostly finches (Fringillidæ) which live chiefly on grain and to a lesser degree on insect grubs, but what we require are the flycatchers (Muscicapidæ), warblers (Motacillæ), tits (Paridæ), and swallows (Hirundacæ). I have written to the Cape to see if such birds can be obtained, there are great difficulties in the way of feeding in transit, but the Cape passage is the shortest. A few years ago Mr. Grey Wilson obtained from thence a bird called the White-eye (Zosterops Capensis), of which a number were liberated at Plantation, but they did not succeed and are presumably all dead as none have

been seen for some time.

Industries.

The only industry in the Island which is carried on to a small extent, and is capable of much extension, is coffee growing. The St. Helena coffee, which has descended from the true Mocha stock imported by the East India Company, is of excellent quality, and the trees bear wonderfully well, considering they are never manured. The dry season seems to have been favourable to them for the crop was exceptionally heavy, a small patch of coffee in Plantation grounds, containing about 286 bushes, yielded about 428 lbs. of dried coffee, an average of 11 lbs. per bush, but in Sandy Bay the yield of coffee per bush is nearly double. am glad to see that this industry is engaging the attention of the islanders, one small farmer in Sandy Bay has put much of his property under coffee cultivation and he finds it more profitable Mr. Jackson, of Jamestown, is willing to than general farming. purchase from growers the fresh fruit at a fixed rate per pound and he has erected machinery for cleaning and roasting the berry.

I am of opinion that tea could also be grown to a limited extent for home consumption, and I brought out with me a practical tea grower, a native of Assam, who for nine years was overseer of a large garden. He approves of the climate and soil, and

from a few plants of the China variety, which we discovered ST HELENA. in Plantation grounds, he made, after pruning the bushes and allowing them time to flush, a small sample of fair black tea. Some Assam seed has been sent for, and on its arrival a small nursery will be established and plants distributed to several residents, who have expressed a wish to try the cultivation.

Bee-keeping.

I am glad to see that three residents on the Island are taking much interest in bee-keeping. I have arranged for importation of the Italian bee to improve the existing stock, and have introduced the Californian beeflower (Phacelia tanacetifolia).

Fisheries.

I am still convinced that fish curing is the industry for St. Helena, but it must be carried out by English agency, the islanders are too apathetic to start it properly, but when once started it ought to give employment to a number of women and children. Rupert's Valley would be an admirable site for the purpose, and the old slave barracks are just suited for drying sheds, the anchorage is good and a small landing pier could be made without much expense. I am having some experiments made in dry curing, and the result will be submitted to London experts for opinion. The fish cured have been cavally, mackerel, bonito and albicore, of which about 360lbs. are ready for shipment.

The mackerel prove to be of good size, weighing, when caught, about 1lb. and when dried from 4 to $5\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. Fish loses about 80 per cent. in process of drying. The dried cavally runs from $12\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. to 1 lb. 14 ozs. Bonito about $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., and albicore about 15 lbs., each. The latter fish is the same as the tunny of the Mediterranean, in which so large a trade is done. I know of one fishery in which about 60,000l. is invested. The fishing in the Mediterranean is done by nets of a mile in length, here nets are not used for any kind of fish, and the boats are small open ones, quite unsuited for large operations.

I have, &c.

R. A. STERNDALE, Acting Governor.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 182. SEYCHELLES.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 151 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

October 1896.



LONDON:

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1896.

[C.-8279.-6.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Col	ony.				Year.
151	Seychelles -					1894
152	Basutoland -					1894-5
153	Fiji -			-		1894
154	St. Helena -		-	-	-	,,
155	Ceylon	-		-	-	"
155	Mauritius -	- 7		-	-	"
157	Labuan			•	-	"
158	Gold Coast -	-	-	-	-	"
159	British Guiana -	-10			- 1	"
160	Sierra Leone -	-	-			"
161	Jamaica		-			1894-5
162	British Honduras -	-		•	-	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	•			-	1894-5
164	Newfoundland -	-1121				1894
165	Gambia				-	"
166	Bermuda		-	- ·	-	99
167	Leeward Islands -	-			•	>>
168	British New Guinea	- 1	- 1	•	19 -	1894-
169	Zululand	17 19	- 1 S		-	1895
170	Sierra Leone -			•	-	>>
171	Gibraltar		-	•	-	"
172	Malta					"
173	Barbados					99
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	-			-	"
175	Falkland Islands -	-		-		,,
176	St. Helena -	•		-	-	99
177	Bahamas		-	•		"
178	Hong Kong -		N	•	•	99
179	Windward Islands -	-	-		-	"
180	Labuan	-	4	7.0		29
181	Trinidad and Tobago	-	1 . Se			"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colon	у.	Subject.	
1	Gold Coast	-		Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -	an artis	_	Forests.
2 3	Sierra Leone	-		Geology and Botany.
	Canada -		-	Emigration.
4 5	Bahamas			Sisal Industry.
6				Bubonic Plague.
7	Hong Kong Newfoundland			Mineral Resources.

No. 182.

SEYCHELLES. 1895

3

SEYCHELLES.

[For Report for 1894, see No. 151.]

Administrator STEWART to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Seychelles, September 2, 1896. SIR, I HAVE the honour to forward my Blue Book report for 1895.

> I have, &c. H. COCKBURN STEWART, Administrator.

Government House, Seychelles, September 1, 1896. SIR, I HAVE the honour to forward my report on the Blue Book for 1895.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of 1895 amounted to Rs. 233,282 as against Rs. 235,411 in 1894.

The expenditure was Rs. 225,500 as against an expenditure of Rs. 278,470 in the preceding year.

The expenditure for 1895 was consequently Rs. 52,970 less

than the expenditure for 1894.

Allowing for the special outlay in 1894 of Rs. 30,600 for the purchase of the New Oriental Bank's building, which was quite abnormal, we have a decreased expenditure in 1895 of Rs. 22,970.

The revenue exceeded the expenditure by Rs. 7,782.

The ratio of revenue to the population was 12.96 per head. The ratio of the expenditure to the population was 12.66 per head.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

The exports amounted to Rs. 525,350 and the imports to Rs. 518,908.

v 93970. Wt. 20348. SEYCHELLES. 1895.

PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of any importance were undertaken last year, but the public buildings were all thoroughly overhauled, and repairs to most of the bridges in the Dependency effected. Three wooden bridges have been rebuilt in masonry, and it is intended to substitute masonry bridges for all existing wooden ones, which soon rot and fall into disrepair.

My attention has been directed principally to the repair of the roads throughout the island of Mahé, and I am glad to say that with the slender means at my disposal I have been able during

the past year to make some progress in this direction.

I have established the French system of cantonniers, and I

have every reason to believe that it will work well.

A cantonnier has the charge of a "canton" or section of the road two miles in length. He lives in his section, and is responsible for the proper up-keep of his part of the road.

The cantonniers are constantly inspected, and I find that with vigilant supervision they do their work in a satisfactory manner, and that the portion of roads which have been put in good order are satisfactorily maintained.

POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Archipelago on the 31st December 1895 was 17,977, whereof 9,061 were males and 8,916 females.

The births in 1895 were 657, as compared with 636 the previous ear.

The mean rate of increase of the population for the quinquennial period 1891-95 is 17.7 per 1,000.

The still-births were at the rate of 2.8 per 1,000.

The death-rate 15.2 per 1,000.

EDUCATION.

There were 28 schools examined by the inspector of schools, one of which was the Government undenominational school, the rest grant-in-aid schools.

The number of children examined was 2,178.

The average attendance for the school year being 1,618.

The sums voted for education in 1895 were:-

			Rs.
Grants to grant-in-aid schools	7 - 1 1	-	8,000
Government school -		-	3,864
Grants to affiliated classes -	-	-	700
or a total of		-	12,564

The grant in aid was apportioned as follows:— Rs
Roman Catholic schools - 6,190'30
Church of England schools - 1,809'70

SEYCHBLL ES. 1895

In December 1895, 37 pupils from the St. Louis College and Government school were presented for the first time for examination in the classes affiliated to the Royal College of Mauritius, of whom 22 succeeded in passing, securing between them nine prizes.

JUDICIAL.

There were 672 criminal informations lodged in 1895, and 627 adjudicated upon.

There were 838 persons charged and 697 convicted. 184 cases were disposed of on the civil side and 63 in the stipendiary court.

There were also 126 cases dealt with in chamber.

POLICE FORCE.

The Police Force of Seychelles consists of:-

1 Chief Officer of Police.

1 Sergeant-Major.

2 Sergeants.

3 Corporals and 44 men.

PRISON.

Four hundred and six persons were committed to prison during the last year, of which number 24 were sentenced to one year and upwards but under 5 years, the remainder to less than one year.

The daily average in prison was 75.

No deaths occurred.

MEDICAL.

The number of persons treated at the public hospital of Mahé was 141 against 186 in 1894:—

frequencialistic of the parties of			1894.	1895.
Paupers		- 6	69	51
Prisoners		-	81	23
Police and Government labourers	- 4	6/- 7	42	16
Paying patients		-	44	51
Total -		tion in	186	141

o 93970.

6

SEYCHELLES. 1895. Of these-

73 were discharged cured.

45 ,, relieved.

7 ,, unrelieved.

10 died.

6 remained in the hospital at the end of the year.

141

Of the seven unrelieved cases one was a sailor on board H.M.S. "Cossack" and had to join his ship, two were removed to Curieuse Pauper Asylum.

The other three left at their own request.

The number of out-door patients in 1895 was 5,915, against

7,237 in 1894.

The large diminution is owing to a new system which I inaugurated last year, by which those persons applying for free treatment at the dispensary have to produce tickets from the police showing that they are unable to pay for medicines or medical relief.

The system has worked well. The late Dr. Monnier, Acting Government Medical Officer, in his annual report for 1895 writes as follows:—"This measure has wisely stopped a gross abuse, "which was at the same time immoral and expensive. The result of this was that, whilst in the three last months of the year 1894 1,321 consultations were given at the public "dispensary, the number of consultations for the same period of 1895 amounted only to 583."

In 1895, 280 children were vaccinated at the public hospital,

and 31 in the outlying districts.

LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1895:—

1. An Ordinance providing for the the service of the Seychelles

Islands for 1895.

2. An Ordinance to amend the Auctioneers and Appraisers' Ordinance of 1892.

3. An Ordinance for applying a further sum not exceeding Rs. 47,910.59 for the service of the year 1894.

4. An Ordinance to provide for the levying of harbour and

light dues.

5. An Ordinance to provide for the levying of a surcharge of ten per cent. on transcription, inscription, and registration, dues and fees.

6. An Ordinance to repeal the tax upon dogs and to impose in

lieu a license duty.

7. An Ordinance to amend Regulation No. 1 of 1888, "To "regulate the receipt and payment of money deposited in "the office of the District Clerk."

8 An Ordinance to determine what fees may be charged by Sevenbles. public notaries for ship's protests and average bonds.

1895.

7

- 9. An Ordinance to determine the conditions under which public officers exercising their functions in the Seychelles Islands, and who, by virtue of such functions, are obliged to furnish security, may obtain release from such security after cessation of their functions.
- 10. An Ordinance to amend the laws relating to the local rate.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

According to the last census returns (1891) there were 2,636 Protestants and 12,608 Roman Catholics in the Archipelago. The following is the list of the clergy in Seychelles:-

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

Civil Chaplain -	001		the res	m come	1
Minister, South Mahé	-	and go hay	REP 19-31	(1) pre-	1
Minister for Praslin	- 0	7-11	-		1
Evangelists and Catechia	sts		- C	-	10

CHURCH OF ROME.

Bishop .		-	-	- 1	1 -	1
Priests .	-			-	101	12
Lay Breth	ren of the C	apucin C	rder	RO ZVEA	Die Die	2
Marists B	rothers -	-	-	-	-	8
Sisters of	St. Joseph	Mas retai		-	-	51

HARBOUR.

The following return shows the number of vessels, their nationality, tonnage, &c. which entered Port Victoria during 1895:-

Nationality.		Merchant Vessels.		I I	Ien of Wa	r.	Mail Steamers.		Num-
		No. of Vessels. Register Tonnag	Registered Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Guns.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	ber of Men.
British -	-	27	6,951	6	15,990	44	10	10,904	2,679
French -	2	2	3,231	2	1,350	10	36	195,624	6,449
Germa		-	rom a te	4	5,744	34	-		668
Russian -		-	-	1	1,320	17	-	7.wad	210
Dutch -				1	4,600	24	-		300
Norwegian		1	1,092	-		A 9 22	_		15
Total		30	11,274	14	29,004	129	46	206,528	10,321

SEYCHELLES. Ninety vessels, manned by 10,321 men, entered Port Victoria in 1895:—

		No. of Vessels.	Tonnage
Men of war -	-	14	29,004
Mail steamers -	-	46	206,528
Merchant vessels	-	30	11,274
Total -	-	90	246,806

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Rainfall.

The amount of rainfall during the year 1895 was 101.03, being 10.93 above the average for the previous three years.

1892.	1893.	1894.
87.45	87.77	95.08
	Average 90·10	

Number of days on which rain was registered, 138.

Temperature.

Highest solar temp. - - 166.2 on April 24
Lowest on grass - - 68 , June 26
Highest max. in shade - 86.9 , May 15
Lowest min. in , - 71.7 , July 24

Average temperature for the year as follows :-

GENERAL REMARKS.

December of last year marked an epoch in the history of Seychelles, as in that month the last steamer of the Messageries Maritimes Company called here.

The steamers of this company have touched here both coming from and going to Europe for the last 35 years, and we have been accustomed to have regular and punctual communication with Europe, Australia, and Mauritius. They have now,

unfortunately, abandoned us altogether, and we are entirely SEYCHELLES. dependent on the British India Co.'s steamer, whose boats call here on their way from Bombay to Zanzibar and back for our mails and goods. The arrivals and departures of these steamers are most uncertain, but a steamer each way once a month can be counted on.

The flowering of the vanilla during the latter end of 1895 gave a good promise for the crop of 1896, and I am glad to say that the expectations then formed are being realised. The crop now being gathered will, it is estimated, reach 30,000 lbs., and the prices for vanilla this year are exceptionally high.

The flowering has already begun this year, and there is every

prospect of a large crop for 1897.

Seychelles vanilla is now most favourably known on both the London and Paris markets and commands a remunerative price.

Next to cocoanut oil, it is our most important produce, and in a good year the crop gives a return of about Rs. 400,000. Unfortunately, vanilla is a most capricious plant, and, whereas we may have a good crop for two consecutive years, we may have also three, or even four, years without any crop at all.

H. COCKBURN STEWART,

Administrator.

COLONIAL REPORTS. -ANNUAL.

No. 198.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 174.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

July 1897.



LONDON:

PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1897.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Co	lony.				Year.
170	Sierra Leone -					1895
171	Gibraltar		10-50		-	"
172	Malta	-	4		-	2,9
173	Barbados				-	"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	3 -				"
175	Falkland Islands -	-	¥ 24	-		,,
176	St. Helena -	-			-	,,
177	Bahamas	-	1		-	"
178	Hong Kong -	- 4				,,
179	Windward Islands -	H				,,
180	Labuan				-	,,
181	Trinidad and Tobago	-				"
182	Seychelles -	12.38	16.2	~		,,
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	-			4	1894 and
	The total services in the party of the party					1895
184	British Honduras -					1895
185	Lagos		-			"
186	Basutoland -	-				1895-6
187	Ceylon			-		1895
188	British Guiana -				rania.	1895-6
189	Gold Coast -	1000				1895
190	Jamaica					1895-6
191	Canada					1895
192	Bermuda					1896
193	Bahamas					
194	Zululand -	-				"
195	Gambia					"
196	Malta					"
197	British New Guinea		Was I			1895-6

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	711		Subject
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand -	-		Forests.
3	Sierra Leone		110	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada -	-	1/10/1	Emigration.
5	Bahamas			Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong			Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland			Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific			Solomon Islands,

No. 198.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1896.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 174.)

GOVERNOR Sir H. A. BLAKE to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

King's House, Jamaica, Sir, April 28, 1897.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you a copy of the Blue Book of the Turks and Caicos Islands for the year 1896, together with the Commissioner's Report thereon.

I have, &c.
HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1896.

1. Taxes, Duties, &c.

There is no alteration to report under this head.

2. Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue figure of 1896 is a long way the highest that has been reached since the Islands became part of the Colony of Jamaica 24 years ago, and the financial results of the year's working are very satisfactory.

The total sum collected was 9,707l., as against 7,312l. in 1895

and 8,840l. in 1894, and exceeded the estimate by 1,921l.

This result is attributable to the large export of salt, with its correspondingly large return from royalty and light dues, and to increased in portations, import duties having brought in the biggest sum as yet received in any one year under the existing tariff, while also the figures of most of the minor heads of revenue show an upward tendency.

The balance carried forward from the previous year was 4,540%.

giving a gross revenue of 14,247l.

The total expenditure amounted to 7,383l., being less by 164l. than the sum expended in 1895. Of this amount 7,125l. was ordinary expenditure (including an item of 796l. on Public Works),

o 97840. Wt. 20408.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1896. against 6,849l. in 1895, and 258l. was for works and services of a

special nature, the sum so spent in 1895 having been 6981.

The revenue collected within the year exceeded by 2,324l. the total expenditure within the same period. Of the sum so in excess, 500l. was invested by the Crown Agents in Victoria stock and 1,000l. advanced at bank rate, while 400l. was invested in Jamaica in Jamaica inscribed stock, and 600l. placed in the Government Savings Bank, leaving a working balance to carry forward to 1897 of 2,365l., which, with the investments above mentioned and a further sum of 2,000l. which the Dependency had already to its credit invested, gives a total credit balance of 6,865l.

The attainment of such a result as the above, in a small barren group of islands like these, with a scattered West Indian population of under 5,000, who at the same time enjoy complete immunity from the payment of direct taxes, is a little notable.

3. Assets and Liabilities.

There was a balance of assets over liabilities on the 31st of December 1896 of 6,864l. 15s. 9d.

4. Public Debt

The Dependency has no public debt.

5. Municipalities.

There are local boards, established by various legislative enactments, to deal with the following subjects; namely, health, quarantine, prisons, pilotage, salt ponds, education, and medical relief.

6. Public Works.

The total expenditure under this head was 1,053l., divided as follows:—

				£
	-	-	-	64
- 100	- 1		_	731
1 - 54	J. Cana			258
	-		ha ab	1,053
			the sale of states	care and a secretary and a sec

The office of Colonial Surveyor and Inspector of Public Works, which was done away with in 1881, was revived and filled at the close of the year by the appointment, for a fixed period of three years, of a gentleman from the Public Works Department of Jamaica, at a salary of from 2501. to 3001. per annum.

The recurrent vote was for the most part expended in general renovation and improvement of the Government property. Some portions of the roads outside the town of Grand Turk were also taken in hand and metalled for the first time in their history

and the great general improvement in the condition of the roads within the township of Cockburn Harbour, which has been effected little by little during the past three years, was further continued.

TURKS
AND CAICOS
ISLANDS,
1896.

Under the extraordinary vote the following new works were carried out:-

Extension of warehouse	premi	ses,	£	8.	d.
Grand Turk -	-	-	130	11	2
Latrines, Grand Turk	-	-	26	7	2
Completion of Custom Hou	ise ext	en-			
sion, Cockburn Harbour	-	-	23	13	3
Removal of shoals near the	shipp	ing			
place, Cockburn Harbour		-	50	0	0
Breakwater, Salt Cay	41		27	L	6

In view of difficulties that arose in course of construction, it was deemed wise to defer the continuance of work on the breakwater at Salt Cay until the Government could obtain professional advice on the spot. Now that a Colonial Surveyor has been appointed it will be again taken in hand.

7. Legislation.

Some important legislation took place during the year under review.

The following Ordinances were passed:—

No. 1.—The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance.

No. 2.—The Red Salina Improvement Ordinance.

No. 3.-- The Crown Lands Ordinance.

No. 4.—The Salt Pond Ordinance.

No. 5 .-- The Public Officers' Securities Ordinance.

No. 6.—The Annual Appropriation Ordinance, 1897.

No. 7.—The Post Office (Offences) Ordinance. No. 8.—The Pilotage and Harbour Ordinance.

Some little excitement was occasioned by the introduction of the Salt Pond Ordinance, which was at first viewed with great suspicion as constituting an infringement by the Government upon existing rights of proprietors. After due discussion and explanation, however, these suspicions were calmed, and the measure, I am glad to say, finally passed without dissent. The Ordinance effects a much needed consolidation and revision of the different enactments settling the tenure of Salt Ponds (which are a very peculiar kind of property), and providing for their management and improvement, and the satisfactory conclusion arrived at of this important and somewhat long pending question is matter for congratulation.

The Red Salina Improvement Ordinance provides for the appointment of a Committee who are empowered to undertake the cleaning out of the main reservoir of that salina, a work which was last done in 1857, five years before the responsibility of management and upkeep passed from the hands of the Crown to those of proprietors of allotments. The Government provides the

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1896. funds in the first instance, and the sum expended is to be repaid by the proprietors in instalments, under penalty of the sale of their allotments on failure to meet their obligations. This special Ordinance was rendered necessary by the refusal of the Salt Pond Board (the body in which the care of the salinas is legally vested) to take the matter in hand. The question has been a vexed one for some years, and it became necessary to deal thoroughly with it. The Ordinance met with determined opposition during its passage through the Legislative Board, but now that the chief part of the work has been satisfactorily done, and the beneficial results of it have been seen, I may, I think, say that its provisions are viewed with less disfavour.

The Crown Lands Ordinance is another important measure by which the law in regard to the disposal and acquirement of Crown property is consolidated and set out in a clear and simple form, and conditional rights are also given to parties who can prove a bond fide occupation of land for 20 years prior to the commencement of the Ordinance. Fifteen old Acts and Ordinances are repealed by the new law.

The Pilotage Ordinance is also a consolidation, having for its object the expression of the existing law in a less ambiguous

form, and its amendment in certain necessary particulars.

There remains still, however, considerable work to be done before the laws of the Dependency can be said to be in a thoroughly satisfactory condition.

8. Legislative Board.

There was no change in the composition of the Board during the past year.

9. Civil Establishment.

The Commissioner and the Judge of the Supreme Court did not

leave the Dependency during the year.

Mr. A. W. Harriott, Assistant Commissioner at Grand Turk, was absent on vacation leave from 30th April to the 26th July, his duties being performed by Mr. E. C. Harriott, the clerk to the Commissioner, whose place was filled for the time by Mr. L. Lea Smith.

Mr. T. O'Connor, Assistant Commissioner at Cockburn Harbour, was also away on vacation leave from the 22nd May to the 29th June, the work of his office being carried on by Mr. W. A. Astwood, the Boarding and Revenue Officer of the settlement.

Mr. F. E. Todd, Corporal of Police and Foreman of Works,

was also granted vacation leave for six weeks.

10. Pensions.

The pension list was reduced during the year by the sum of 88l. 16s., in consequence of the death of the widow and one of the daughters of the Rev. J. Maxwell, formerly rector of the parish of St. Thomas at Gra-d Turk, and the marriage of a second

daughter, and increased by a pension of 20l. 1s. 4d. to a retiring police constable, making a net reduction of 68l. 14s. 8d.

The total sum paid in pensions was 532l. 4s. 2d.

TURKS AND CATCOS ISLANDS.

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11. Foreign Consuls.

The following countries are represented: United States of America. Sweden and Norway. Denmark. France. Spain. Dominican Republic.

12. Population and Vital Statistics.

The population of the Dependency continues to increase, the births for the year being returned as 225 against 119 deaths. Of the births 60, or about 27 per cent., were illegitimate, two-thirds of which number are from the Caicos Islands. There were 61 marriages solemnized in 1896, as against an average of 39 for the five years 1891-5, a clear sign of the better times among the labouring population.

13 Education.

An inspection of all the Government schools was held during the year by an inspector from the Jamaica Education Department. The school at Grand Turk, under the new teacher appointed in 1895, showed a great advance, and was ranked equal to a good first-class Jamaica school.

The results at the schools in the outlying districts were not so satisfactory, and some of the teachers employed have not turned With, however, an improved teaching staff, which will out well. be at work during the year, and the inspector's report, which goes carefully into all the weak points, as a guide, there is a hope of some progress being made. The great stumbling block to education here is, and always has been, the scanty and irregular attendance of the children, owing to carelessness on the part of the parents and their want of appreciation of the advantages offered them.

14. Imports and Exports.

The year's revenue from import duties is the largest that has as yet been collected under the lowered tariff in force since 1884, and exceeds the figure of the previous year by 743l. The principal increase is in spirits, which gave 293l. more than in 1895. The receipts under the heads of flour, sugar, salt meat, lumber, and ad valorem duties are also all noticeably higher, especially the two

A further good feature in connexion with the return of imports for 1896 is that, with the exception of a small proportion of the TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1896. lumber, the whole are genuine importations in the regular way of business, and the figures are not swelled by any fortuitous entry of wrecked goods. Thus they may, I think, be fairly taken as denoting a pleasing state of well-being throughout the community.

The export of salt was well above the average, being 1,904,627

bushels, bringing in a royalty to Government of 2,778l.

The ground fishery salt trade with British North America, which is of great importance to Grand Turk, and latterly also Salt Cay, revived, 331,000 bushels going out in this form, as against 71,000 in 1895. The year was nearly a perfect one for the salt raker, and a large crop was gathered at each of the three ports, which leaves an abundant supply of the staple on hand to meet demands from the States before the new crop is gathered.

The price, too, for this full export remained firm at 7 cents a bushel, against the $5\frac{1}{2}$ cents to 6 cents which obtained for so many years prior to the end of 1895, the cheering effect of which

condition is very perceptible.

The export of sisal or Bahama hemp increases gradually each year, the value declared for 1896 being 1,047l., and, in spite of low prices and unfavourable prognostications, the local parties engaged in this industry seem fairly well satisfied with their prospects.

There was nearly 1,000l. worth of sponge also exported from

the Caicos Bank.

Comparative tables showing the trade and other statistics of the Dependency are attached.

			1894.			1895.			1896.		
Value of imports		-	£ 28,525	s. 14	d. 10	£ 26,734	s. 18	d. 0	£ 30,245	s. 4	d. 4
Import duties collected			3,173	14	9	2,958	13	2	3,701	3	4

VALUE of EXPORTS of DOMESTIC PRODUCE and MANUFACTURES in the Years 1894, 1895, and 1896.

	_			1894.			1895.			1896.		
Salt -				£ 29,686		d. 3	£ 19,432	s. 5	d. 8	£ 29,106		d. 6
Sponge -	-		-	217		8	552	5	5	957		0
Bahama hemp				419	13	2	620	6	10	1,047	8	1
Salt fish	-			-	-		69	0	0	6	0	0
Turtle shell	1			62	2	0	150	0	0	230	0	o
Palmetta straw	•	•	-				-			43	0	0
Total				30,585	17	1	20,823	17	11	31,390	13	7

VALUE of IMPORTS and EXPORTS from and to each COUNTRY for the Years 1894, 1895, and 1896.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1896.

Imports

		18	94.		18	95.		18	96.	
United Kingdom -	_	£ 3,666		d. 0	£ 3,317		d. 2	£ 3,284		d. 3
British North America -	-	1,126	12	8	1,777	7	6	1,242	4	6
British Colonies -	-	1,973	14	6	1,423	2	8	1,692	17	3
United States of America	-	18,408	2	1	18,103	9	8	22,080	15	2
Other Foreign Countries	-	3,350	11	7	2,113	6	0	1,944	19	2
Total -	_	28,525	14	10	26,734	18	0	30,245	4	4

Exports.

		1894.			189	1895.			1896.		
United Kingdom -	_	£	s.	d.	£ 24		d. 10	£ 240		d. 0	
British North America -		8,697	13	5	1,571	19	11	6,266	6	3	
British Colonies -	-	132	10	6	235	6	11	597	0	6	
United States of America		20,933	6	1	17,908	10	5	23,278	18	9	
Other Foreign Countries	-	3,010	15	10	1,947	2	7	1,115	8	11	
Total -	-	32,774	5	10	21,687	17	8	31,497	14	5	

AVERAGE QUANTITY of SALT experted from each PORT for the Seven Years 1888 to 1894, and the actual Export for 1895 and 1896.

Ports.			1888-94.	1895.	1896.	
Grand Turk -			Bushels. 673,775	Bushels. 202,358	Bushels. 769,068	
Salt Cay -		-	449,885	312,466	513,109	
Cockburn Harbour		-	661,480	775,564	622,450	
Total bushels		-	1,785,140	1,290,388	1,904,627	

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 18J6.

Salt in	the Colony	on 31st	December	1893	-	700,000	bushels
	"	,,	,,			130,000	
	"	"	"			490,000	,,
	,,	,,	,,	1896	-	770,000	,,

15. Shipping.

The total number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared for the last three years is shown below:—

Sailing Vessels.

		Ente	red.	Cleared.		Total.		
		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons	
1894 -	1	311	55,030	320	54,215	631	109,245	
1895 -	-	249	31,694	252	31,744	501	63,438	
1896 -	-	296	48,138	294	47,604	590	95,742	

Steamers.

			Entered.		Clea	red.	Total.		
			Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	
1894)	62	71,185	62	71,185	124	142,370	
1895		1,4	66	88,343	66	88,343	132	176,686	
1896		-	2	82,968	62	82,9	124	165,936	

Total British and Foreign.

S, H. Marie				1895.		1896.				
			Sailing.	Steam.	Total.	Sailing.	Stram.	Total.		
British		-	17,516	23,644	41,160	39,925	24,672	64,597		
Foreign		-	45,922	153,042	198,964	55,817	141,264	197,081		
Total		-	63,438	176,683	240,124	9.,742	165,936	261,678		

Her Majesty's ship "Magicienne," from Jamaica, having on board his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, visited the Dependency for a few hours in the month of May, calling first at Cockburn Harbour and subsequently at Grand Turk. There were no oher visits by men-of-war.

With the exception of a barque loading salt at Cockburn Harbour which dragged her anclors and went ashore in a south-west gale, there were, I am glad to say, no wrecks or strandings of any consequence on the coasts of the Dependency throughout the year.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1896.

16. Agriculture.

The year was a very dry one, and the provision crops in the outer Caicos settlements were proportionately scant. The "hard time" was, however, tided over with the assistance of only a few barrels of meal from Government to the old people and little children. I think the Caiconians are beginning to learn to be a little more resourceful on these occasions, and the regular employment by the fibre companies at East and West Caicos is, of

course, a great help to them.

An effort in a small way was made to revive cotton cultivation, which was formerly a considerable industry in the Caicos, by the distribution of good seed through the different settlements, and information as to the proper times and method of planting and of gathering the crop. The people can find a modest barter market at Cockburn Harbour for any small quantities that they may bring, and I am in hopes they may take to it to some extent. One party from Grand Turk has planted out 50 acres of land, and is at present seeking to buy Crown land, with the view of a more extensive cultivation, which it is to be hoped he may make a success.

17. Mines, Manufactures, &c.

The production of salt from sea-water by solar evaporation is, as is well known, the one dependence of these islands. There is little machinery used in the industry, but I may perhaps note under this head that at the Port of Salt Cay, within the last two years, American "aermotor" plant for crushing salt to produce what is called "ground fishery salt" has been successfully established and given much satisfaction, as being a good deal more cleanly than the steam engine and somewhat more economical.

There is also a move fowards greater cleanliness of pans and reservoirs at Grand Turk, to which the Red Salina Improvement

Ordinance may have to some extent contributed.

There has also, I am glad to say, been a step made towards the working of the undeveloped salinas of the Dependency, and I hope shortly to conclude a lease for one large salina at Cockburn Harbour, which should ultimately give a crop of over 250,000 bushels per annum.

18. Grants of Land.

A comprehensive Ordinance dealing with the subject of Crown lands in the Dependency was passed during the year, and the financial conditions have been happily such as to enable the office of Colonial Surveyor to be revived. It is thus now possible to arrange for systematic survey work, and for the prompt dealing with land applications, so that I trust in a few years' time the present condition of uncertainty as to area, boundaries, and title will no longer exist, and that the Government will possess accurate

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1896. plans of the chief towns and settlements, the need of which is much felt.

19. Gaols and Prisoners.

The total number of persons committed during 1896 was 27, of whom 9 were for safe keeping and 18 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The daily average in the gaol was 2, a figure which speaks

well for the general good behaviour of the population.

20. Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1896 was 222, against 193 in 1895.

Of the offences reported in 1896:-

67 were for offences against the person.

2 ,, prædial larceny.

12 ,, offences against property other than prædial larceny.

141 " " other offences.

The total number of convictions in the inferior courts in 1896 was 165, against 132 in 1895.

These convictions are classified as follows: -

39 for offences against the person.

1 for prædial larceny.

6 for offences against property other than prædial larceny.

119 for other offences.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows :-

1 for offences against the person.

1 " " property.

The acquittals were as follows: -

In the inferior courts - - - - 48
In the Supreme Court - - - 1

21. Hospitals and Asylums.

There is no hospital or asylum. In cases of lunacy the patient is placed in gaol under medical supervision, and, if necessary, ultimately sent to the asylum at Jamaica. These cases have been somewhat more frequent of late years, and there are now five patients from here under treatment at Jamaica, costing the Dependency 137l. per annum.

22. Meteorological Observations.

There is nothing special to record under this head.

The rainfall was a good deal below the average, and at both Salt Cay and Cockburn Harbour there was for a short while some little fear of a scarcity of water.

There was, I am glad to report, no hurricane, and the hurricane

months passed without any disturbance to cause anxiety.

The summer was, however, an exceedingly hot and trying

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1896.

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Tables of temperature and rainfall are appended.

				Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
T				00		
January	•	-	-	80	74	77
February	-		-	80	74	77
March -		-	-	80	75	78
April -	-	-	-	80	75	77
May -	-	-	-	82	70	80
June -	-	11-	-	85	81	83
July -	-	-	-	84	81	83
August -	1	1	-	86	84	85
September		-		87	84	86
October -			-	87	82	85
November	-	101-	-	84	78	81
December	-	-		82	76	79

RAINFALL for the Year 1896 compared with the Average for the previous Seven Years.

Month		Grand Turk.	rk. Salt Cay. Cockburn Harbour.		Kew.
January -		- 1.87	1.04	.76	3.31
February		- 34	• 47	•23	2.41
March -	-	- 1.37	1.42	1.27	• 42
April -		- 3.40	1.08	•45	·16
May -	-	- 29	•24	.76	.36
June -	-	- 83	.47	•29	•31
July -	-	- 2.96	2.35	1.95	3.61
August -	-	- 81	•51	•37	1.63
September	-	- 4.90	2.90	3.92	10.36
October -		- 28	1.40	.66	2.40
November	-	- 1.99	2.48	2.49	4.73
December	200	2.03	1.68	3.19	2:20
Total inches	-	- 21.07	16.04	16.34	31.90
Average for sev	en years	,			
1889 to 1895		26.26	23.78	20.47	34.80

23. Savings Banks.

The Government Savings Bank was opened in 1890. The attached statement shows its condition at the present time:-

Bank.	Depo	Deposited.			Withdrawn.				To credit.											
	1895.	1896.	1	895		1	896		1	895		1	896		1	895		1	896.	
Grand Turk	73	88	£ 268	s. 7	d. 8	£ 430	s. 7		£ 215	s. 2	d. 5	£ 194	s. 13	d. 5	£ 660	s. 9	d. 8	£ 896	s. 3	d 11
Salt Cay -	45	48	83	1	10	57	16	1	95	8	0	29	16	0	58	8	11	80	9	0
Cockburn Harbour -	26	29	77	12	4	97	15	1	66	1	7	77	2	10	272	13	1	293	5	4
Total -	144	165	429	1	10	579	18	10	376	12	0	301	12	3	991	11	8	1,269	18	-

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. 1896. The number of depositors and amount of deposits have nearly doubled within the last four years.

24. Post Office.

The Post Office revenue for the year was 230l. 15s. 2d., an

increase of 30l. 16s. 3d. over the previous year's figure.

This sum does not include the value of stamps demanded by dealers and others abroad, which is brought to account under the head of Miscellaneous, and amounted to 9471.

A direct money order exchange with the other West Indies, through the medium of Jamaica, was established during the year.

Messrs. Pickford and Black's steamer from Halifax and the Clyde line steamers from New York continued to run throughout the year.

25. General Remarks.

The year 1896 was decidedly one of prosperity and progress.

A fine salt season gave an abundant crop of the staple, the price of which remained steady throughout the year at a figure that is

acknowledged to be fairly remunerative.

The result was a good revenue, which has enabled the Government to strengthen its reserve and at the same time to meet two long felt wants by the appointment of a Colonial Surveyor and a second Medical Officer to be stationed in the Caicos Islands, which have never before been so favoured.

The greater attention to salt pond property, and the appearance in several directions of new buildings, with the execution of long delayed repairs to those already existing, is an indication of a revival of well-being which it is pleasant to witness.

revival of well-being which it is pleasant to witness.

The legislation of the year may also, I venture to say, be fairly

pointed to as a step forward.

In closing this my fifth Blue Book report from here, it is a satisfaction to me to be able to record that the general condition of the Islands, which in 1893 I spoke of as seeming to me to give "fair promise for the future," has in the interval been so materially bettered.

Grand Turk, 27th February 1897. EDWARD J. CAMERON, Commissioner.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 179.

WINDWARD ISLANDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 144 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

October 1896.



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1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.		Colo	ny.				Year.
142	Malta						1894
143	Gambia		-		-	-	"
144	Windward Islands		- 1			-	,,
145	Trinidad and Tobag	0	-	-	-	-	"
146	Gibraltar			- 5		-	"
147	Falkland Islands -		-	-		-	"
148	Hong Kong -		-	-57		- 4	"
149	Straits Settlements				-	-	"
150	Lagos		-			_	"
151	Seychelles		-		4	-	"
152	Basutoland -		-	-		-	1894-5
153	Fiji		_			-	1894
154	St. Helena -		-		-	-	
155	Ceylon			-	•	-	"
156	Mauritius		-			-	"
157	Labuan		-				"
158	Gold Coast -						,,
159	British Guiana -			. 47.			"
160	Sierra Leone -		-			-	"
161	Jamaica		-		4.4		1894-5
162	British Honduras -				-	-	1894
163	British Bechuanalan	d				-	1894-5
164	Newfoundland -		-				1895
165	Gambia		-		300		"
166	Bermuda			-	-		"
167	Leeward Islands -						
168	British New Guinea						1894-5
169	Zululand		_	-			1895
170	Sierra Leone -		-		-		
171	Gibraltar		-				"
172	Malta						"
173	Barbados						"
174	Turks and Caicos Is	slands					"
175	Falkland Islands -					-	"
176	St. Helena -						"
177	Bahamas						"
178	Hong Kong -						"
110	Trong Hong			- 11000			"

MISCELLANEOUS.

Vo.	Colony			Subject.
1	Gold Coast			Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	-		Forests.
3	Sierra Leone			Geology and Botany.
1	Canada -	-	-	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	-		Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong			Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland		-	Mineral Resources.

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WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

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WINDWARD ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1894, see No. 144.)

SIR CHARLES BRUCE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

SIR, Grenada, July 6, 1896

I HAVE the honour to submit my Report on the Blue Books of the Colonies under my government for the year 1895.

Before dealing with the Colonies individually, it will be convenient for me to refer to a few points touching the general interests of the Windward Islands.

The agricultural story of the year may be told in few words—short crops and low prices. The collective value of exports from the three colonies amounted to 340,868l., against 422,882l. in the year 1894. The result was a restricted circulation of money and a diminished demand for imported goods. Consequently the collective value of imports in 1895 amounted to only 364,052l., against 475,146l. in 1894. As a result, the collective Revenue of the Colonies amounted to 132,491l., against 148,226l. in 1894.

Uniformity of legislation in matters relating to quarantine was secured during the year by the passing of practically identical Ordinances on the lines recommended by the British Guiana Conference in 1888, and generally followed by subsequent legislation in the West Indies. The laws relating to the custody and care of lunatics were also assimilated, a measure which necessarily accompanied the completion of the Central Asylum in Grenada where patients from all the Islands are maintained in ample comfort.

The rate of postage between all the Islands in the Windward group was reduced from $2\frac{1}{2}d$. to 1d.

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

GRENADA.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the year 1895 amounted to 58,468l.; the expenditure to 63,675l. The revenue and expenditure for 1894 and the average of the five years 1889-93 were as follows:—

et.				1894.	Average 1889 to 1893.
Revenue	•		-	£ 63,602	£ 53,571
Expenditure		-	-	59,594	55,700

Assets and Public Debt.

The excess of expenditure over the revenue of the year was

covered by the Colony's surplus assets.

The year 1894 had closed with a surplus of 7,113l., of which 4,000l. was appropriated to the redemption of 5 per cent. Debentures, held by the trustees of the Graham Bequest Fund in St. Vincent. The balance was fortified during the year by the transfer to Revenue of 2,000l. from a deposit known as the Fire Insurance Fund, no longer required in consequence of policies of insurance having been effected on the Government buildings. The year 1895 closed with a nominal surplus of assets of 587l. During the year 21,000l., of 4 per cent. Stock were issued under authority of the Public Works Loan Ordinance, 1894, at a premium of 10 per cent., and 500l. of $4\frac{1}{5}$ per cent. Debentures were converted into 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock at par. At the close of the year the Public Debt amounted to 113,000l., and consisted of 109,000l., of 4 per cent. Stock and 4,200l. of $4\frac{1}{2}$ Debentures. The Colony was also liable at the close of the year for the repayment of 2,431l, borrowed by the St. George's Town Board. The accumulated sinking fund invested by the Crown Agents amounted to 2,522l. The Public Debt represent a little less than twice the revenue of the year, and an indebtedness of a little less than 2l. per head of the population.

Imports and Exports.

The decrease of revenue was chiefly caused by diminished receipts from import duties, duty of excise on rum, and liquor licenses; and these diminished receipts were in the main due to causes which led to, and resulted from, a serious falling off in the value of exports. The revenue from Customs fell from 30,121*l*. in 1894 to 24,826*l*. in 1895.

In explanation of the following tabular statements, showing the value of the imports and exports of 1895 compared with previous

years, I must premise that the values for 1895 have, for the first time in this Colony, been computed with an additional percentage to represent, in the case of imports, the cost of freight, packages, and insurance; and in the case of exports, the cost of packages.

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

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Imports.

		Wi	Without percentages.							
		Average 1890-4.	1894.	1895.	1895.					
United Kingdom	-	£ 90,663	£ 99,973	£ 63,929	£ 78,079					
British Colonies -	-	35,299	35,418	34,567	42,151					
Foreign countries	-	48,075	61,607	45,792	55,482					
Totals -	-	174,037	196,998	144,288	175,712					

Exports.

		Wi	Without percentages.							
		Average 1890-4.	1894.	1895.	1895.					
United Kingdom	-	£ 234,051	£ 176,241	£ 139,097	£ 140,736					
British Colonies -	-	8,080	4,421	5,519	5,616					
Foreign countries	24	12,530	8,952	25,407	25,668					
Totals -	-	254,661	189,614	170,023	172,020					

Leaving out of consideration, for the purpose of comparison, the added percentages, it will be seen that the value of exports in 1895 was 170,023l. as compared with 189,614l. in 1894, and 254,661l. the average value of exports in the quinquennial period 1890-94. This serious falling off was chiefly due to a short cocoa crop and low prices. The amount of the cocoa crop for the seasons from 30th September 1890 to 30th September 1895, was approximately as follows:—

1890-91		-	-	-	71,979 Cwt
1891-92	•		- 17	-	72,053 ,,
1892-93		-	-	-	79,758 ,,
1893-94	- 3	-		-	89,462 ,,
1894-95		-		-	68,829

Windward Islands. 1895. It follows that the crop of 1894-95 fell short of the crop of 1893-94, which, however, was the largest on record, by over 20,000 cwt., and fell short of the average crop of the period 1890-94 by nearly 10,000 cwt.

The following figures have been given me as representing approximately the average prices of Grenada cocoa in the London market for the seasons 1890-95:—

				S.	S.	
1890-91	_			59 to	63	per cwt.
1891-92	-		-	55 to	62	"
1.892-93	-	-	-	76 to	79	22.
1893-94	-	-	-	58 to	63	29
1894-95	-		-	44 to	48	,,

Assuming 60s. and 46s. to have been the average prices for the last two crops respectively, the value of the cocoa crop of 1894-95 fell short of the value of the crop of 1893-94 by about 110,000l. The result was a restricted circulation of money, and the diminished revenue from import and spirit duties. I pointed out in my report on the Blue Book for 1894 that the large revenue from imports in that year was to a great extent attributed to the use of American flour and foodstuffs in substitution of local produce in the way of plantains and vegetables known under the general name of "ground provisions," sweet potatoes, vams, tanias, &c., and I observed that this tendency was promoted in 1894 by long-continued drought, which restricted the growth of local produce. The abundant rains of 1895 have enabled the small proprietors to resume the cultivation of ground provisions with success, and this movement has been encouraged by the restricted circulation of money for the purchase of imported foodstuffs. is necessary to bear this in mind in considering the relative wellbeing of the population in 1894 and 1895. The want of purchasing power indicated by the falling off of revenue from imports and spirits has been to some extent compensated by a cheap and abundant supply of wholesome home-grown food.

The following comparative statement of imports of vegetable foodstuffs shows an all-round decrease in 1895.

Article.			1894.	1895.	Decrease in 1895.
ETATION (CO			Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Bread		-	244,135	204,375	39,760
			Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Flour (Wheaten)	-	-	31,087	26,499	4,588
			Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Meal		-	385,987	202,890	183,097
Rice		-	1,361,244	1,021,368	339,876

After cocoa, spices, principally nutmegs, rank as an important export, and the volume and value of this export compare very favourably with the export of previous years:—

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	Yea	ır.		Quantity.	Value.
1893		-	-	Cwts. 2,087	£ 14,546
1894	-	hik = 1	-	1,917	9,583
1895			-	3,640	20,982

There was no material change in the volume and value of the exports of minor industries. These exports fluctuate annually.

Of 55,481l. value of imports from foreign countries, the United States claim no less than 54,735l. These imports consisted mainly of vegetable food supplies, salt meat, mineral oil, and oleomargarine.

The value of exports to the United States amounted to only 4,686l., towards which cocoa contributed 3,874l., and spices 567l.

Shipping.

The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in 1895 were as follows:-

				Ent	ered.	Cleared.		
				Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	
Steamers -	-	- Marine	12	189	240,088	189	240,293	
Sailing Vessels	-	-	-	458	14,889	461	14,884	
Totals	-		•	647	254,977	650	255,177	

In 1894 the number of steamers entered was 180, and the number of sailing vessels 407. The increased number of steamers was due to the facilities offered for coaling by the construction of a wharf alongside which 22 steamers were coaled.

Public Works and Road.

Two important public works were completed during the year. the Sendall Tunnel and the Grenville Water Works. Sendall Tunnel joins the Carenage or inner harbour of St. George's with that part of the town in which the Market Square and the principal shops are situated. The harbour and Market Square were previously connected by precipitous streets and the substitution of a tunnel for the toilsome ascent and descent up Windward Islands. 1895. and down which goods had to be transported has conferred a boon on the community which is thoroughly appreciated. In order to complete the original scheme a new street has been opened between the eastern mouth of the tunnel and the streets leading to the Market Square. The new street is protected from the sea by a massive stone wall. The tunnel was commenced in 1889, but the works were suspended for some years.

The Grenville Water Works, commenced in 1894, were completed during the year and the scheme, besides furnishing an abundant supply of pure water to the residents of Grenville and the shipping, affords a provision for the protection of property against fire which will, it is hoped, enable proprietors to insure at easier rates of premium. Mr. Osbert Chadwick, C.M.G., the consulting engineer of the works, visited them shortly before their completion and reported that they were thoroughly well constructed, adding that when finished they would be as complete as those of any town in Europe. The service of the St. Paul's and Richmond Hill Water Works was during the year extended by laying a new supply pipe, and a considerable district was thus

brought within the area of supply.

While these important works were being completed the necessary preliminary steps were taken with a view to carrying out further useful undertakings as soon as funds are available. Mr. Chadwick prepared reports on a scheme for supplying the town of Gouyave with water; on a scheme for lighting the town of St. George by electricity; and on the reclamation of the swamp-lands of Grenville. An examination of the harbour of St. George's was also undertaken by Mr. G. H. Stephens, and a scheme prepared for the construction of a wharf to enable vessels to discharge and load alongside, instead of by means of lighters. Such a wharf would materially increase the commodiousness of the port for coaling purposes. A large expenditure was incurred during the year in the repair and reconstruction of roads and bridges damaged by inundation in 1894 and 1895. A complete reconstruction of the streets of the town of St. George's was commenced and partly executed during the year by the Town

The total expenditure on Public Works amounted to 21,004l., of which 12,592l, was paid out of general revenue for roads and buildings, 6,054l., out of loans for Colonial Public Works, and 2,358l., out of loans for Parochial Public Works

Meteorology and Forestry.

A record of rainfall in each district of the Colony was for the first time obtained in 1895. The greatest rainfall gauged was 193 inches at the Grand Etang on the central ridge of the Island, 1,790 feet above mean sea level; the lowest, 78.75 inches, at the Richmond Hill Station, 506 feet above mean sea level. On the 30th of September a rainstorm of great severity visited the northern districts of Grenada and the Island of Carriacou. In

Grenada, roads, bridges, and telephone lines were swept away by the flood, the damage under these heads being estimated at over 5,000l. Many acres of cultivated land were also laid waste or carried away. A catastrophe of the same kind in 1894 had already called my attention to the necessity of providing against the denudation of the forest lands of the Colony by the extension of clearings for purposes of cultivation.

It is universally admitted that such clearings, if undertaken without proper precautions, are the fruitful cause of torrents and generally increase surface drainage to the detriment of springs and permanent water courses; and I cannot doubt that the extension of clearings on the slopes of the mountain ridges of Grenada is tending to produce such results. Mr. Hooper, of the Indian Forest Department, who reported on the forests of Grenada in 1887, advised the strict preservation under forest of so much of the central ridge of the Island as is included within the Crown lands and certain other portions in the immediate vicinity, of which it would be to the general interest for the Government to assume the ownership. The uncertainty prevailing concerning the limits of the Crown lands around the Grand Etang has been a difficulty in carrying out Mr. Hooper's proposal, but steps have now been taken to remove this difficulty by the determination and demarcation of the boundary of the Crown Lands.

Mr. Hooper's Report closed with the following paragraph:

"The administration of the forests, in whoever's hands it is placed, to be successful, must command the cordial co-operation of the estate owners; and from short acquaintance with them, I am sure that, once the matter is understood by them, they will not withhold their active assistance both in resigning to the inalienable charge of Government the backlands, which in many instances are a source of expense rather than of profit (sixpence an acre being the annual assessment on uncultivated land) to their present owners, and in paying a careful attention to the preservation of their forests, in the management of which they might be assisted by the forest officer. By so doing they would confer a benefit on themselves and on the community at large."

The Government, while taking measures for the preservation of the Crown lands, has asked for the cordial co-operation of owners of estates in the matter, and there can be no doubt that it will be accorded. It is to be apprehended, nevertheless, that the great extension of clearings and cultivation on the higher slopes during the years succeeding 1887 will make the accomplishment of forest reservations less easy than it would have been at that time.

Agriculture.

Early in the year Professor Harrison, Government Analyst of British Guiana, visited Grenada to select and report on sample soils from different districts of the colony, with reference to the products for which they are best suited and the manures necessary to correct their deficiencies. The thanks of this Colony are due

WINDWARD ISLANDS, 1895. WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

to the Government of British Guiana for placing Mr. Harrison's services at our disposal, and to Mr. Harrison himself for the interest he took in the work and for his reports. The Curator of the Botanic Garden accompanied Mr. Harrison on his tour through Grenada and Carriacou, and had thus an excellent opportunity of meeting planters and proprietors and taking notes of the agricultural position of the Colony. A commission was appointed during the year to report on the measures which it might be advisable to take in the agricultural interests of the Colony in consequence of the serious fall in the price of cocoa. Sittings of the commission were held in the different parishes and much information collected. The report of the commission has now been received and published, and the recommendations made seem to be generally prudent and practicable. The Curator of the Botanic Garden reports that the proceedings of the commission drew the attention of planters to the cultivation of coffee, and in consequence the supply of young plants at the garden was insufficient to meet the demand. Strenuous efforts are being made to meet it in the near future. The Botanic Garden continues its efforts to encourage the distribution of good qualities of agricultural and horticultural plants in aid of the established staple products of the Colony. Among other minor industries the cultivation of kola is increasing. Experiments are being made in the cultivation of tobacco.

A short crop of cocoa and low prices have for the time arrested our prosperity. Propitious seasons will, it may confidently be hoped, restore the abundant measure of previous crops, but it would be imprudent to calculate on the certainty of a return to the superior prices of two years ago. What can be done, however, is to obtain for Grenada cocoa the highest possible market price by such improved methods of preparation as will give our cocoa a reputation for uniform superiority of quality. It seems probable that the establishment of central boucans, under the management of experts, might do much towards the attainment of this end. If this end can be attained there seems to be a future of excellent promise for cocoa in Grenada, but the experience of the year seems once more to enforce the lesson that the fortunes of the colony cannot be safely limited or restricted to the cultivation The recommendations of the commission to of one product. which I have referred are all in favour of adding new agricultural industries to the resources of the Island. This is a lesson which the Kew authorities have long taught, and through the agency of botanical stations and gardens they do much to make it possible to promote the encouragement of subsidiary industries in aid of, or it may be, in time, to take the place of, established staples. A long colonial experience has taught me to appreciate to the full the Imperial service done by the Director of the Kew Gardens and his

Vital Statistics.

The population of the Colony on the 31st of December was estimated at 59,101, showing an increase of 1,409 over the previous year. The number of births exceeded those of any previous year recorded by the Registrar, and indicated a birth rate of 44.9 per 1,000. The death rate, 20.8 per 1,000, was the lowest recorded for many years. The marriage rate, reflecting the industrial depression, fell from 7.25 per 1,000 in 1894 to 5.20. It naturally followed that the per-centage of illegitimate births was somewhat higher than in the previous year.

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Education.

A consolidating and amending Education Ordinance was passed in 1895, but did not come into operation till the 1st of January 1896. A new Code of Regulations for elementary schools is being prepared under the Ordinance, by which it is hoped that the standard of education may be raised, so that the Government may secure greater efficiency in return for the public expenditure.

Elementary education was carried on during the year in 37 schools, with 7,025 children on the registers, and an average attendance of 3,569. The number on the registers represents nearly 12 per cent. of the population. The Government expenditure on elementary education amounted to 5,354l. On secondary education the Government expenditure was limited to 614l. in the form of grants in aid of the St. George's Grammar School for boys and two high schools for girls. The expenditure on education amounted to 6,723l., nearly 11.5 per cent. of the whole revenue of the Colony.

Savings Bank.

A comparison of the following table with the tables in which I have given the amount of cocoa exported and the price for the last five years shows that the transactions of the Savings Bank sympathised with the depression of the year:—

Year	Year. Nur Dep		Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at Credit of Depositors on 31st December	
1893 -	-	716	£ 7,305	£ 6,394	£ 7,994	
:894 -	-	959	7,307	7,893	7,602	
1895 -	-	885	5,563	6,666	6,408	

Legislation.

Several Ordinances relating to the public health of the Colony were passed; including the Quarantine Ordinance, the Public Health Ordinance, by which local authorities in sanitary matters have been established, the Streams Pollution Ordinance, the Grenville Water Supply Ordinance, and I may perhaps include

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895. under this head the Lunatics Ordinance. An Ordinance was passed to consolidate and amend the Education Laws. By the St. George's Town Board Ordinance, a Board was created to administer the affairs of the town, in substitution of the old Parochial Board, half of the members being elected by the ratepayers and half nominated by the Governor. By the Ordinance the receipt and payment of all moneys are entrusted to the Treasury; the functions and powers of the Board being in this and other respects assimilated to those of the Castries Town Board of St. Lucia. For the protection of the town of St. George against fire, an Ordinance creating a Fire Brigade was passed.

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SAINT LUCIA.

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the year amounted to 48,564l.; the expenditure to 57,579l., the expenditure thus exceeding the revenue by 9,015l. The revenue and expenditure for the year 1894, and the average yearly revenue and expenditure for the years 1889-93, were as follows:—

	ing th				1894.	Average, 1889 to 1893.
	0.5		017-09		£	£
Revenue		-		-	56 590	51,209
Expenditure	A Consti		ay o		54,500	51,588

The revenue of the year was not affected by any alteration of duties or taxes. The payment of export duties was suspended during the year as a measure of relief to the estates which had suffered from damage done to crops by the gale and floods of October 1894; but these duties are paid as contributions to the Immigration Fund. The Customs' Tariff Ordinance, 1895, did not come into operation until the 1st of January of the present year. The effect of this Ordinance was in general a reversion to the rates of duty levied before the adoption in 1892 of a revised tariff to meet the requirements of the McKinley tariff treaty arrangements. The 1895 tariff nevertheless leaves the general ad valorem rate and the duty on spirits at the rates fixed in 1892. The Ordinance also imposes a duty of sixpence per ton on coal and coke, but the collection of this duty is, by a proviso in the Ordinance, suspended until the 1st of January 1897.

As in Grenada, the falling off of revenue was mainly due to diminished receipts from customs and excise duties. The receipts from Customs fell from 24,416l. in 1894 to 21,052l. in 1895; the receipts from excise fell from 15,455l. in 1894 to 12,671l. in 1895. These reduced receipts were the result of a decline in the volume and value of the staple exports.

Assets and Public Debt

The year 1894 closed with a surplus of assets over liabilities, exclusive of Debenture and Inscribed Stock Loans, amounting to 4,655l. This surplus was absorbed by the excess of expenditure over revenue of 1895, and the year closed with a debit balance of

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895. 4,3591. The Public Debt on the 31st of December 1895, amounted to 185,3801. made up as follows:—

						£
6 pe	er cent	t. Debentures	-	-	-	22,600
5	,,	,,	-	-	-	2,700
41/2	,,	,,	-	-	-	77,600
41/4	22	,,	-		-	8,000
31/2	,,	99		-	-	8,000
4	93	Inscribed S	tock	200	-	66,480

Included in the amount of 66,480l. Inscribed Stock is a sum of 10,000l. raised by the Colony on behalf of the Castries Town Board, interest and sinking fund being payable by the board. The credit of the Colony is pledged for the loan. The sum of 1,900l. was paid off during the year in redemption of drawn debentures. The Public Debt at the close of the year, exclusive of the Town Board Loan, was equal to 3.6 times the revenue of the year and represented an indebtedness at the rate of 3l. 16s. 5d. per head of the population. The charges on account of the Public Debt absorbed more than one-sixth of the revenue of the year.

Military Expenditure.

The Imperial expenditure during the year for military purposes amounted to 45,174l. The Colonial expenditure was limited to 1,957l. paid as an allowance to the troops in lieu of exemption from duties of Customs.

Imports and Exports.

The following tables show the value and direction of the trade of the Colony for the last five years:—

Imports.

Countries from whence	impor	ted.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
United Kingdom -			£ 138,019	£ 103,859	£ 86.838	£ 93,780	£ 74,512
British Colonies -		-	24,867	30,360	26,602	31,933	28,690
Foreign Countries -	•		59,292	38,806	55,538	61,425	51,720
Wrecks		-	-	-	-	404	23
Totals -		-	222,178	173,025	168,978	187,542	154,945

Of 51,720l., value of imports from foreign countries, the United States claim 39,357l.

74,935

102,155

Exports.

87,056

130,384

Countries to which exported.

United Kingdom -British Colonies -

Foreign countries -

Totals

 1891.
 1892.
 1893.
 1894.
 1895.

 £
 £
 £
 £
 £

 37,177
 44,757
 55,217
 43,062
 24,269

 6,151
 7,153
 5,212
 11,297
 2,951

118,001

178,430

91,535

145,894

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

* Including specie, but exclusive of value of bunker coal supplied to shipping.

Of 72,451l., value of exports to foreign countries, the United States received 37,758l. exclusively in sugar.

84,446

136,356

The following table gives the quantity and value of the principal exports in 1895 compared with the two preceding years:—

		1893		1894	4.	189	5.
Exports.		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sugar:		lks.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Usine		8,011,200	76,106	7,668,400	53,679	7,362,200	46,014
Muscovado -		1,928,400	14,463	2,377,800	12,483	763,700	3,341
Molasses		Gall. 253,680	4,756	Gall. 223,320	3,722	Gall. 279,960	3,499
Cocoa	-	lbs. 1,037,600	38,910	lbs. 983,200	28,513	lbs. 739,402	16,637
Logwood		Tons. 6,292	37,752	Tons. 7,116	37,359	Tons. 5,086	25,430

The average price of the principal exports for 1895 compared with the two preceding years was approximately as follows:—

Export.			1893.	1894.	1895.
Sugar, per 100 lbs.:			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Usine -	-	-	0 19 0	0 14 0	0 12 6
Muscovado		-	0 15 0	0 10 0	0 8 9
Molasses, per gall.	-	-	$0 0 4\frac{1}{2}$	0 0 4	0 0 3
Cocoa, per 100 lbs.	-	3-	3 15 0	2 18 0	2 5 0
Logwood, per ton	-	-	6 0 0	5 5 0	5 0 0

In my Report on the St. Lucia Blue Book for 1894 I showed that the serious decrease in the value of the staple products exported in that year was the result of falling prices and not of

Windward Islands, 1895. diminished production. The figures I have now given show that in 1895 a further fall in price was accompanied by a diminished production. I also pointed out in my Report for 1894 that a long period of drought during that year followed by disastrous floods towards the close of the year would probably show their effect on the crops of 1895. The diminished yield of the year may be assigned chiefly to these causes.

The effect of the diminished yield and low prices of the principal products of the Colony was a restricted circulation of money and a reduced demand for the principal articles of import. The value of the principal food supplies imported showed a diminished value of nearly 6,000l; while in textile fabrics, haberdashery, and hardware, the falling off amounted to over 11,500l.

Shipping.

The number and tonnage of vesels entered and cleared in 1895 were as follows:—

				Ente	red.	Cleared.		
				Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	
Steamers -		-	-	365	453,216	366	454,777	
Sailing vessels	-			307	19,294	308	20,381	
Totals	-		-	672	472,510	674	475,118	

Of the 365 steam vessels entered, 308 were British, 27 French' and 19 Belgian. In 1894 the number of steam vessels entered was 386. Most of the steamers entering call for bunker-coal. The shipment of bunker-coal was 35,714 tons in 1895; 39,764 tons in 1894; 37,580 tons in 1893. The price of the bunker-coal shipped is returned at 23s. in 1893 and 1894, and at 20s. in 1895. As no rival coaling ports can compete with St. Lucia in facilities for coaling, or in the price at which coal can be put on board, this fall of price must presumably be the result of local competition. It seems certain that if local competition reduces the price of coal below the price necessary to compete with rival ports no gain, but rather loss, is the result to the Colony. A fall of 3s. per ton in the price of 35,000 tons of coal means a direct loss of 5,000l. to the local merchants, and a corresponding indirect loss to the Colony.

Public Works.

The works undertaken for the supply of pure water to the town of Castries and the shipping have made steady progress; a considerable length of pipe being already laid. The new Government House was so far completed that the Administrator

WINDWARD ISLANDS.

1895.

took up his residence in it before the end of the year. The construction of a telephone line round the island connecting the several towns and villages with Castries and with each other was commenced and the line is now nearly completed. Several other minor but useful works were carried out, and on roads and bridges the damage done by the gale and floods of 1894 necessitated unusually extensive and costly labour. The amount expended on public works by the Civil Government during the year was 20,890l., of which 9,205l. was defrayed out of general revenue; 11,314l. from loans; and the balance from town and village local funds. The military expenditure for works amounted to 12,600l.

Meteorology.

The year was one of heavy rainfall. Observations taken at the Morne at an elevation of 745 feet above mean sea level recorded a rainfall of 121.29 inches. In 1894 the record showed 81.55 inches; in 1893 it indicated 113 inches. The rainfall exceeded the average for the five preceding years by over 27 inches. In September and November the monthly records showed a rainfall of over 17 inches. Rain fell on 250 days during the year; the greatest number of rainy days (27) occurring in September, and the least (11) in February. It seems worthy of note, as indicating the necessity for precaution among the troops quartered on the Morne, that the absolute maximum temperature recorded was 87.6 and occurred in the month of October; the absolute minimum was 60.2 and was recorded in the same month.

Agriculture.

The prosperity of St. Lucia was arrested during 1895 by the causes which have affected the West Indies generally, short crops and low prices. But the agricultural history of the year was marked by one incident of good promise, as showing that, even in exceptionally unfavourable circumstances, the resources of the soil may be exploited with profit by intelligent, scientific, and economical enterprise. Early in the year the mortgagees in possession of the estates of the Central Sugar Factory Company gave notice of their intention to withdraw from the property and to cease working the factory and estates. As the Company was entirely without funds, it seemed possible and even probable that the property would revert to the condition of jungle, while not only would the indentured immigrants have to be provided for under the terms of their engagements, but a large body of labourers belonging to the general community would be thrown out of employment. In these circumstances it was fortunate that a local syndicate came forward and took over, under an agreement with the Government, the working of the estates provisionally for a year. I understand that the estates have been worked with such superior energy, skill, and economy, as to realise an immediate profit and to justify the belief that the cultivation of the property

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895. will be permanently maintained and extended, with profit to the undertakers and every advantage to the Colony.

Vital Statistics.

The population on the 31st of December was estimated at 45,906, showing an increase of 811 over the previous year. The birth-rate was 40.4 per 1,000; the death-rate 22.4. The number of marriages, as in Grenada, seemed to reflect the agricultural depression, being 280 compared with 339 in 1894. The percentage of illegitimate births remained nearly stationary at 59 per cent.

Immigration.

There were in the Colony at the end of the year 721 indentured East Indian immigrants, including 513 statute adults or immigrants over 15 years of age. There was no importation of East Indian immigrants and no repatriation of time-expired immigrants. The birth-rate and death-rate among the indentured immigrants was as follows:—

		Perce	ntage.
1895.		Indentured Immigrants.	General Population.
Birth rate -	-	4.20	4.04
Death rate -	-	2.24	2 · 22

There were four "East Indian Mission" Schools in operation during 1895, with 233 children on the registers.

Education.

The work of primary instruction was carried on by 37 schools, with 3,977 children on the rolls and an average attendance of 2,212. In 1894 there were 35 schools, with 4,239 children on the registers and an average attendance of 2,607. Not only was there a falling off in the general attendance, but the inspector's report indicates a falling off in the number presented for examination and in results. The number of children on the registers represents about 8.6 per cent. of the population. The Government contribution to primary schools amounted to 2,668l. or about 1l. 4s. 4d. per head of the children in average attendance. In the way of higher instruction, Government contributed 200l. in aid of the Castries Grammar School, known as St. Mary's College.

Savings Bank.

The deposits during the year amounted to 7,000*l*. compared with 9,548*l*. deposited in 1894; on the other hand, the withdrawals amounted to 7,162*l*. compared with 9,842*l*. withdrawn in 1894. The following figures seem to indicate that, while there has been a falling off in the saving power of a section of the community, saving habits have extended:—

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

		Year.		les d	No. of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits at 31 Dec.	Average sum per Depositor.
400						£	£ s. d.
1890	-			-	681	9,492	13 18 9
1891	-			-	909	9,961	10 19 2
1892	-			-	905	7,704	8 10 3
1893	-	-	-	-	1,128	9,812	8 13 11
1894	-		-	-	1,187	9,428	7 18 10
1895				-	1,275	9,267	7 5 4

It appears from these figures that the Savings Bank in St. Lucia has not reflected the general depression in agriculture and trade so clearly as in Grenada. This is probably due to the large expenditure on Public Works by the Military as well as by the Civil Government.

Legislation.

The principal Ordinances passed during the year have been already referred to in this despatch, namely: the Ordinances to amend and consolidate the law relating to quarantine; to provide for the custody of lunatics; to fix a tariff of duties on goods imported into the Colony.

ST VINCENT.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the year 1895 amounted to 25,459l; the expenditure to 28,911l. The revenue and expenditure for 1894, and the average of the five years 1889-93 were as follows:—

		1894.	Average 1889 to 1893.
Revenue -		£ 28,574	£ 27,851
Expenditure	-	30,976	26,926

The revenue was affected by various changes in import and export duties. At the close of 1894 the landed interest was relieved of the additional export duty imposed when the McKinley tariff treaty arrangements were entered into, and to meet this loss of revenue the excise duty on rum was raised from three shillings and sixpence to four shillings on the proof gallon. Early in the year the Customs tariff was revised and the duties antecedent to the McKinley treaty arrangements were, with some modifications, restored. It was anticipated that the revised tariff would fortify the revenue of the year by about 1,250l. The revenue, however, continued to fall, and in the month of November the duties on flour of wheat and tobacco were raised and an addition of 10 per cent. imposed on all duties. Before the additional duties came into force all goods in bonded warehouses were cleared, and the revenue of the year was therefore increased by an amount which would otherwise have fallen into the revenue of 1896. Nevertheless the revenue of 1895 showed a decline of 3.115l. compared with the revenue of 1894.

As was the case in Grenada and St. Lucia, the decline of revenue was due chiefly to diminished receipts from customs and excise duties; and these diminished receipts were due to causes which led to and resulted from a serious falling off in the value of the staple agricultural products. The revenue from import duties declined from 12,881l. in 1894 to 10,788 in 1895, and the revenue from excise from 4,552l. in 1894 to 3,694l.

Assets and Public Debt.

The year 1894 closed with an excess of liabilities (exclusive of the Debenture Debt) over assets amounting to 260*l*. and the excess of expenditure over revenue in 1895 increased the debit balance at the close of the year to 3,712*l*. The Public Debt, raised entirely by the issue of 5 per cent. debentures redeemable within short periods, amounted at the close of the year to 17,170*l*., against 19,380*l*. at the close of 1894. Of this amount, 9,350*l*. represents money raised for municipal purposes, and repayable by the towns in which it has been expended; 1,750*l*. is the balance of the loan raised for immigration purposes, and is being redeemed by a special export tax appropriated to paying the interest and extinguishing this debt; 1,720*l*. was raised to meet initial expenditure on the Crown Lands scheme, and is a charge on the Crown lands; 4,350*l*. is the balance of loans raised for general Colonial purposes up to the 31st of December 1895.

WINDWARD ISLANDS.
1895.

Imports and Exports.

The direction and volume of the trade of the Colony for the last five years is shown in the following tables:—

Imports.

		1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
		£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom .		44,448	49,313	41,388	39,193	27,687
British Colonies -	-	39,174	44,301	40,178	37,296	26,187
Foreign Countries -	•	14,217	9,366	11,859	14,521	10,968
Totals -		97,839	102,980	93,425	91,010	64,842

Exports.

	*							
	•			1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
				£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom -		-/• T	-	39,848	52,317	41,789	34,899	25,876
British Colonies .			-	12,790	25,914	25,142	21,395	19,577
Foreign Countries -		٠		46,034	39,341	47,763	31,080	23,237
Totals -				98,672	117,572	114,694	87,374	68,690

Compared with 1894 the decrease of the import trade amounted to 28.7 per cent.; the decrease of the export trade was 21.3 per cent.

Windward Islands. 1895. The following table gives the quantity and value of the principal exports in 1894 and 1895:—

				189	4.	1895.		
				Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
Arrowroot			brls.	29,119	£ 38,278	25,695	£ 26,959	
Sugar -			hhds.	3,135	27,270	2,782	18,962	
Rum -			puns.	275	2,200	152	883	
Cocoa -	-	-	lbs.	174,519	3,272	173,470	3,246	
Vegetables and	fruit (planta	ins) -	7 - W	2,965	-	3,284	
Spices -		-	-	_	878	_	1,811	

Of 10,968l. value of imports from foreign countries, the United States claim no less than 10,394l. The United States supplied most of the foodstuffs, kerosene oil, and tobacco. Of 23,236l. value of exports to foreign countries, the United States were customers to the amount of 18,796l., this sum representing nearly the whole value of the sugar exported. The bulk of the arrowroot exported went to the United Kingdom.

Shipping.

The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in 1895 were as follows:—

		Ent	tered.	Cle	ared.
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Steamers		104	106,671	104	106,671
Sailing vessels -		390	12,199	309	12,369
Total -		494	118,870	503	119,040

In 1894 the number of steamers entered was 102, and the number of sailing vessels 323.

Public Works.

No public work of importance was undertaken during the year.

Crown Lands.

The low price of stock and agricultural produce seriously affected the revenue of the Crown Lands Department. Purchasers of small holdings under the Crown Lands scheme, which provides for payment by instalments, have been unable to meet their liabilities, the result being large arrears of instalments, dating back in many cases to the year 1893. The Superintendent of Crown Lands is of opinion that where instalments have been paid they have been, to a large extent, paid out of wages earned out of the Colony or by sale of stock and not out of the profits of the cultivation of the land. I am giving my attention to two important questions affecting the Crown Lands scheme, the opening of roads, and the instruction of the small holders in the art of turning their holdings to profitable account by improved methods of cultivation and the selection of the best qualities of economic plants. The Superintendent of Crown Lands and the Curator of the Botanic Gardens are giving every assistance to the settlers.

WINDWARD ISLANDS. 1895.

Meteorology.

The year 1895 was remarkable for heavy rainfall.

The rainfall recorded at the Botanic Garden station was nearly 130 inches, nearly 40 inches in excess of the rainfall for 1894. Over 30 inches of rain fell in the month of September, causing floods which severely damaged the roads and private property in many parts of the Colony.

Agriculture.

The position of the sugar industry in St. Vincent may be conveniently illustrated by the following figures showing the collective value of the export of sugar, rum, and molasses in 1895, compared with the export in the year 1894 and in the years 1880, 1885 and 1890.

1880.	1885.	1890.	1894.	1895.
£	£	£	£	£
128,603	86,341	63,621	30,482	21,581

Up to 1894 the value of the export of arrowroot was on the ascending scale, but in 1895 it fell to 26,959l. from 38,278l. in the previous year.

The value of the export of cocoa rose steadily from 640l. in 1880,

to 3,272l in 1894. In 1895 it was 3,246l.

The decline of the sugar industry in St. Vincent is, of course, due, in the first instance, to the causes which have depressed the industry in other West Indian Colonies, and mainly to the system of subsidies adopted by foreign Governments which guarantee

their producers a margin of profit even when the price is below the cost of production. But, as I pointed out in my report last year, St. Vincent has suffered more severely than other Colonies owing to the absence of such improved machinery as has elsewhere met reduced prices by turning out a superior quality of sugar at a reduced cost of production. For the Muscovado sugar, forming a large part of the export of St. Vincent, there seems to be very little demand in any part of the world. Professor Harrison, whose visit to Grenada I have referred to, extended his visit to St. Vincent, and reported on samples of soils selected from different districts with reference to the products for which they are best adapted and the manures necessary to correct their deficiences. The results of Professor Harrison's visit seem to show that, if the natural fertility of the soil were aided by scientific methods of cultivation and improved machinery, St. Vincent might successfully compete with the most favoured of the sugar-producing The causes which have led to the decline of the arrowroot industry seem to be over-production and the substitution of other farinaceous products, especially flour of rice, for the uses to which arrowroot has hitherto been applied. There is still a fair demand for well-prepared arrowroot of superior quality, and the price is sufficiently remunerative where the soil is suitable and not too heavy. At the present market price the cultivation of cocca on the Crown lands, which are sold at a nominal price, or on private lands unproductive for want of cultivation, should yield a handsome margin of profit. And the same may be said of other products—coffee, fruit, and spices. Dr. Morris, Assistant Director of the Royal Kew Gardens, advises me that the resources of St. Vincent so exactly resemble those of Jamaica that every kind of cultivation which has been found profitable in Jamaica ought to be equally successful in St. Vincent. In considering the prospects of the development of agriculture in St. Vincent, the circumstances of the tenure of land have to be taken into account.

The lands of St. Vincent cover, according to the Blue Book, a total area of 85,000 acres. According to the land roll, which includes assessments on holdings of one acre and upwards, these lands are held approximately as follows:—

	Acres.	No. of Holdings.
Crown lands	40,000	-
In properties of less than 20 acres	1,360	351
In properties of over 20 acres and less than 50 acres.	1,060	34
In properties of over 50 acres	42,000	134

I am unable to state accurately the area of cultivated land in the 42,000 acres in the hands of large proprietors, but I believe

that the area beneficially occupied cannot exceed 8,000 acres, or at the most 10,000. The area of Crown lands in cultivation is insignificant, probably not exceeding 1,200 acres. It is probable that the holdings under 50 acres are for the most part beneficially occupied. It should seem, therefore, that the successful development of the agricultural resources of the Colony must depend on two things: an extension of the area of cultivation of such products as have been found profitable in Jamaica over the large holdings in the hands of a few proprietors; and an extension of similar cultivation by small proprietors. These are the problems upon the solution of which the future prosperity of St. Vincent depends. It is difficult for Government to force the action of the proprietors of great estates, and this is not the place for me to consider the possibility of measures which might have such a result. But it may be allowed to say that it would be to the advantage of the Colony were some portion at least of the large estates now unprofitable to pass into the hands of proprietors who would work them as the unprofitable estates of the Central Sugar Factory Company in St. Lucia were worked during last year by the syndicate to which I have referred in my remarks on agriculture in St. Lucia. As regards the extension of the area of small holdings, a scheme, to which I have already referred, for disposing of the Crown lands was started some years ago. I have indicated the causes which have, for the time at least, retarded the success of the scheme.

Education ..

The work of primary instruction was carried on by 45 schools, with 6,078 children on the register and an average attendance of 3,373. In 1894 the number on the register was 6,193 and the average attendance 3,567. Hard times and continued rainfall probably reduced the school attendance. The Government-grants amounted in 1895 to 1,977l., in 1894 to 2,021l.

Savings Bank.

The following table shows the transactions of the Savings Bank for the last five years:—

			No. of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	At credit of Depositors at 31st December
				£	£	£
1891		-	938	5,216	5,474	8,715
1892			946	4,843	4,751	8,957
1893		× •	1,001	4,514	5,154	8,317
1894	•	•	1,021	5,772	5,165	8,925
1895			1,012	4,509	4,460	8,973

Although the amount of deposits in 1895 fell considerably short of the deposits in 1894, it is satisfactory to observe that, in spite of adverse circumstances, the deposits on the 31st of December were slightly in excess of the deposits at the close of any previous year.

Legislation.

In addition to the Ordinances relating to quarantine and to the care and custody of lunatics, to which I have already referred, the Bills of Exchange Ordinance was passed, making the law relating to Bills of Exchange, Cheques, and Promissory Notes, uniform with the general provisions of Imperial legislation. An Ordinance was also passed to make provision for the preparation and publication of a revised edition of Statute Laws of the Colony, a measure which is being carried out pari passu with the revision of the Laws of Grenada.

I have, &c.
CHARLES BRUCE.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 194. ZULULAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 169.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

July 1897.



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1897.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

Mo.	Col	ony.				Year.
156	Mauritius -		•	•		1894
157	Labuan				-	"
158	Gold Coast -				17. ·	"
159	British Guiana -	-		-		1894-5
160	Sierra Leone -	-			-	1894
181	Jamaica -	-				1894-5
162	British Honduras -	•		-		1894
163	British Bechuanaland		- 7	-	-	1894-5
164	Newfoundland -	-	-	- 4	-	1894
165	Gambia -	-		-		1895
166	Bermuda	-		-	1	"
167	Leeward Islands -	-	-	-		1894
168	British New Guinea			-		1894-5
169	Zululand	-	-	-	-	1895
170	Sierra Leone -			-	-	"
171	Gibraltar	-	-			"
172	Malta		710000		-	,,
173	Barbados			-		99
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	•			-	"
175	Falkland Islands -	-			-	,,,
176	St. Helena -	-		-	-	"
177	Bahamas -	-			-	,,
178	Hong Kong -	-			-	,,
179	Windward Islands	-	• /-		-	"
180	Labuan -	-				"
181	Trinidad and Tobago	-			-	"
182	Seychelles -	-			-	"
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	- 15	7 :		-	1894 and
						1895
184	British Honduras -	- The		-	-	1895
185	Lagos -			-	-	"
186	Basutoland -	-		-		1895-6
187	Ceylon	-		(* •	-	1895
188	British Guiana -				-	1895-6
189	Gold Coast -		701.53	-4		1895
190	Jamaica				-	1895-6
191	Canada			-	-	1895
192	Bermuda				-	1896
193	Baliamas					,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.		Subject.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Gold Coast Zululand - Sierra Leone Canada - Bahamas Hong Kong Newfoundland Western Pacific		Economic Agriculture. Forests. Geology and Botany. Emigration. Sisal Industry. Bubonic Plague. Mineral Resources. Solomon Islands.

No. 194.

ZULULAND. 1896.

3

ZULULAND.

(For Report for 1895, see No. 169.)

Governor Sir W. F. HELY-HUTCHINSON to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Pietermaritzburg, Natal.

SIR. April 10, 1897.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Zululand Blue Book returns for 1896 together with a report by the Acting Resident Commissioner, C. R. Saunders, Esquire, C.M.G.

I have, &c.

WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON.

REPORT by the ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER on the Annual Blue Book of Zululand for the Year 1896.

Revenue.

The year 1896 was an exceptional one, both as regards revenue and expenditure, owing to a general scarcity of food, to a threatened spread of rinderpest, and to the destruction of crops by drought and locusts.

The actual cash balance on the 1st January 1896 was:-

		0	0
A -	24,657	18	5
	£	s.	d.
-			
		0	0
•	18,090	9	4
		£	- 7,293 9 - 10,797 0

The total revenue for 1896 amounted to 66,982l. 5s. 4d. showing an increase of 15,235l. 6s. 8d. over that of the previous year, and 7,011l. 5s. 4d. in excess of the estimate.

o 97609. Wt. 20408.

ZULULAND. 1896.

The increase is mainly accounted for as follows:—

1. 9,197l. 4s. 6d. by the sale of mealies which were purchased and issued, on repayment, by the Government for the relief of families in want of food;

2. About 9,000l. for the sale of dynamite to the mining community, and of ammunition to the rifle associations;

3. 2,000% hut-tax, collected in the new district of Ingwavuma;

4. 1,2001. "sums refunded," including 9651. repaid by the Natal Government for the construction of the line of telegraph between Dundee and the Nondweni goldfields.

Expenditure.

The expenditure was 79,830l. 8s., being an increase over 1895 of 13,6571. 12s., an excess over the estimates to the extent of 18,0381.9s., 5d., and considerably heavier than in any previous year.

This is to be explained by the following extraordinary and

unforeseen items of expenditure:-

- 1. 16,876l. 15s. 9d. on the purchase of mealies to meet a general scarcity of food throughout the country. As these mealies are issued on payment, most of this expenditure will be recouped to Government. On the 31st December the amount recovered was, approximately, 9,197l. 4s. 6d. in cash, and 3,120l. value of cattle received; total, 12,317l. 4s. 6d.
- 2. Mines, 929l. 10s. 2d., of which 660l. was spent on the construction of an office at Nondweni.
- 3. Magistracy, 2,419l. 10s. 2d., owing to the establishment of two new magistracies, one of which, Umlalazi, was not estimated for.

4. Post and telegraph, 1,093l. 12s. A new telegraph station was opened at Nondweni at the end of 1895.

The Eshowe-Tugela mail cart subsidy has been nearly doubled, owing to a considerable loss of horses and the increased price of corn.

Postal services were also established to Ingwayuma,

Amaputaland, and Umlalazi magistracy.

5. Zululand Police, 3,457l. 14s. 6d., owing to an abnormal rise in the price of mealies, and the establishment of a Protectorate in Amaputaland, which cost 1,173l.

6. Scientific research, 718l. 18s. 10d., due to the continued employment of Surgeon-Major Bruce for the investigation

of "Nagana" or "Tsetse fly."

7. Dynamite, 9711. 5s. 3d. This will be recovered as sold to the public.

8. Locusts, 1,110l. Expended on the work of destruction.

9. Rinderpest, 1,010l. Owing to the outbreak of this disease in the South African Republic, precautions were taken against the introduction of cattle into Zululand by the establishment of a cordon of police to guard the border, a duty which is now being performed almost entirely by the Zululand Police, and the expenditure considerably reduced.

Excluding the items under rinderpest, locusts, and famine relief, the ordinary expenditure exceeded the ordinary revenue by about 3,048l.

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In consequence of the unusual charges above mentioned, the excess of assets over liabilities was reduced from 24,612*l*. 7s. to 11,781*l*. 9s. 2d. on the 31st December 1896.

During the past three years the excess of assets over liabilities on the 1st January of each year stood respectively as follows:—

				£	s.	d.
1894	-	SUPPLIES.		39,037	16	1
1895	10-19/2	- 100 m		24,612	7	0
1896	-		- 5	11,781	9	2

Public Works.

11,652l. 7s. 5d. was spent on public works in 1896 as compared with 19,751l. 0s. 3d. in 1895. One or two important works, such as the new gaol at Eshowe, which were in the course of active construction at the commencement of the year were stopped, owing to the threatened famine and the danger of an inroad of rinderpest, and towards the end of April most of the public works were suspended, resulting in an unexpended balance of 5,851l. 15s. 9d. in the amount of the year's estimate. A considerable saving in distance and gradients was effected in the new road between Ngutu and Nondweni. A deviation was carried out between Madhlozi and Nondweni to facilitate the transport of coal from Qudeni to the Nondweni gold fields. Bridle paths were made in the mountainous regions of Nkandhla district for the better connexion of the gold mining centres. The only new buildings erected consisted of wood and iron stores for the transport service from Tugela, Port Durnford, Ndwandwe and Ingwayuma.

No telegraph extension was effected. Wooden poles were cut in the Nkaudhla forest for the Melmoth-Nongoma line, the survey of which was completed and the materials ordered from the Crown Agents.

The lowlands of the Ubombo and Hlabisa districts were surveyed for the map of Zululand which is in course of compilation.

Legislation.

Thirteen proclamations were issued in 1896, the objects of the more important of which were:—

1. To control recruiting in Zululand for the service of foreign countries.

2. To prevent and effectually deal with unlicensed squatting by Europeans on Crown lands.

3. To prohibit the introduction of cattle from the South African Republic or Swaziland, or from any part of the Portuguese Possessions north of Zululand, or of the Amatongaland Protectorate. This was with a view to preventing the spread of rinderpest.

ZULULAND. 1896.

The flight of Ngwanasi from the Portuguese portion of Amatongaland, or Amaputaland, into Zululand necessitated a closer supervision of that portion of the former country falling within the British sphere and over which a protectorate was declared in 1895. A special proclamation was issued by the Governor as Special Commissioner for Amatongaland, extending the laws of Zululand over the Protectorate, and providing for the administration thereof by the appointment of a Deputy Commissioner possessing the same powers as a magistrate in Zululand.

A joint Commission, consisting of one representative from each Government, was appointed to define the boundary between the British and Portuguese spheres in Amatongaland, which, under the Anglo-Portuguese Convention of 1891, takes a line following the parallel of the confluence of the Pongola and Maputa rivers to

the sea coast.

Population.

The European population is estimated at 1,101, compared with 1,246 in the previous year; the decrease being due to the fact that a number of people have abandoned the gold fields in Nqutu and Nkandhla districts in consequence of the unsatisfactory results of mining enterprise.

The native population was calculated on the usual basis of $3\frac{1}{36}$ souls to each hut $(1\frac{11}{27}$ males and $1\frac{97}{108}$ females) on which tax

was paid for the year.

The figures can only be regarded as approximately correct.

According to this estimate the population was 179,271, showing a decrease of 17,348 in comparison with the return of 1895. decrease is to be explained principally by the fact that the population of the Ingwavuma district was over-estimated by 11,628 souls.

In the report on the Blue Book for that year, it was stated that this new district was estimated to contain 23,538 natives; that the huts had not been counted; and that the figures were based on the assumption that the hut tax to be collected would amount to 5,000l,

As a matter of fact only 2,520l. was received on account of hut tax. An error was also made in the computation of the returns, showing an excess of about 6,000 in the estimated

population of the Eshowe district.

Establishment.

A Deputy Commissioner, with a staff consisting of a clerk, European constable, and two native messengers, was appointed in that part of Amatongaland which was proclaimed by the Governor to be a British Protectorate under Order in Council dated 29th June 1896, and published in the Government Gazette on the 11th day of August 1896.

A detachment of the Zululand police is stationed at the post

occupied by the Deputy Commissioner,

Education.

ZULULAND. 1896.

There were three schools for European children—

(1.) At Eshowe, under direction of the Bishop of Zululand, a house being provided free of rent by the Government. Two more pupils were added to the roll of last year. 68l. was granted in aid of this school as a capitation grant of 5s. each per month for children whose attendance was satisfactory;

(2.) Nondweni, under the management of a committee, a Government building being provided free of rent. The capitation grant paid to this school amounted

to 26L;

(3.) A farm house school, where four children are in attendance, received a capitation grant of 30s. for each child during the year.

The total expenditure in aid of education of European children was 222l. 18s. 11d.

Seventeen native schools received grants as follows:-

					£
11 ui	nder the	e English Church Mission	-	-	210
3	do.			-	60
1	do.	Church of Norway Society	-	-	25
1	do.	Swedish Church Mission	-	-	10
1	do.	Roman Catholic Mission			50

Including special grants for buildings, incidental expenses, industrial training-schools, &c. the total amount expended on native education was 676l. 8s. 3d.

The general results attained in 1896 among the European and native schools have been satisfactory.

Agriculture.

Owing to a protracted drought, and the considerable damage to crops by locusts, extending over a period of eight months, a serious scarcity of food prevailed over nearly the whole of Zululand.

Sufficient grain for the wants of the people was not procurable from the local merchants. The Government therefore obtained large supplies of mealies for issue to native families on payment at cost price in the various districts. Up to the end of the year the returns showed that the total expenditure on the Famine Relief Account was 16,876l. 15s. 9d.; that the receipts on sales amounted to 9,197l. 4s. 6d.; that the value of cattle received in lieu of cash represented about 3,120l.; and that there was a balance of mealies on hand to the value of 3,037l. 16s. Of these the greater portion will probably be disposed of, but, owing to the damaged condition of a quantity of mealies, and to the reduction of the sellers' prices, according to current market value since the natives began to gather fresh corn from the season's crops, a loss is anticipated. Towards the end of the year very favourable weather set in, and the locusts almost entirely disappeared from

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ZULULAND. 1896. all parts of the country. The crops cultivated this season consequently show every prospect of a fine harvest.

Mines.

The gold mining industry, which appeared to offer a favourable outlook at its commencement, fell into a state of decline at the end of the year, owing to the failure of the Durban Enterprise and New Sisters' Companies at the Nondweni fields, the abandonment of ground on the upper Insuzi fields by Johannesburg syndicates, and to a general depression in the market which affected all the mining centres of South Africa. At Nondweni, the Durban Enterprise Company started crushing early in the year, but the results obtained were not sufficiently encouraging to continue the work. The working of the New Sisters' mine was attended with much the same results. Little work of any consequence was done on any of the various other properties at Nondweni, the majority of those interested in them having apparently waited for the results of the crushings of the two companies which failed, as above stated.

On the Banket formation at the Upper Insuzi fields no reef has yet been found sufficiently rich to work, and most of the areas have consequently been abandoned. In only one instance has ground of similar formation near the Umhlatuzi river been held with the intention of thoroughly proving it to be payable or

otherwise.

In the neighbourhood of Melmoth the Watkins mine, under capable supervision, has shown that, so far as can be judged at present, it possesses a reef which promises to prove payable. The Acting Commissioner of Mines reports that a schist belt, extending from the Umhlatuzi valley through Nkandhla district to Umsinga in Natal, which has hitherto rarely been exploited, appears to be deserving of attention. The gold occurs here, as a rule, in rich shoots in narrow quartz leaders enclosed in schist, which are capable of being mined and milled at an exceptionally low cost.

The revenue and expenditure of the Mines Department for the

past three years is shown in the following table :-

Year.			Revenue.			Expenditure.		
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1894	-	-	867	2	9	284		
1895	_	-	2,682	18	9	833		
1896	121	-	3,355		7	1,762	11	0
Tota	al -	-	6,905	13	1	2,879	12	8

The above figures do not include the cost of buildings. The Acting Commissioner of Mines is of opinion that there are many districts which merit careful exploration; that the territory cannot yet be said to have been prospected; that the gold mining prospects are not so discouraging as the present depression in the industry would lead one to suppose; that as soon as the country

is diligently explored its mineral wealth will be made apparent; and that hitherto Zululand has been suffering principally from want of capital and the expenditure of such capital to the best advantage. Apart from the gold and coal, the only minerals brought to notice during the year were mica, asbestos, opal, lime. and copper.

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Coal.

A vast supply of fair quality coal is stated to exist over an extensive area of country in the immediate vicinity of the sea-coast. Prospecting was actively carried on towards the end of the year. The most important discoveries which have yet been made are at the St. Lucia and Ntambanana fields. Being situated at a low level close to the sea, with several miles of natural waterways, and being the only locality on the east coast of Africa in which coal is actually known to exist in British territory, these coal measures appear to command exceptional advantages and importance.

The information so far received appears sufficient to justify attention being directed to the mouth of the Umhlatuzi river which would seem to be the natural outlet for these fields in the event of their success. Should this be the case, and it were proved that a coaling station could be established, it might be of

incalculable value to the Imperial Government.

Crime.

The criminal statistics show a general decrease in the amount This may partly be attributed to a complete failure of the mabele crop, from which the native beer is manufactured, and probably in a certain measure to the absence of a large proportion of the young men at work at the Johannesburg gold mines.

The number of offences reported to and dealt with by the

magistrates were 1,108 in 1895, and 916 in 1896,

GENERAL.

Stock.

I regret to say that "Nagana" increased very considerably during the year, particularly in the districts of Entonjaneni, Hlabisa, and Ubombo, and the mortality amongst cattle was consequently unusually severe. Owing to the heavy losses sustained by the natives from this disease, which there is now very little doubt is due to the presence of large game, special authority was granted by Government for the organisation of hunting parties to destroy or drive away the large game from private and inhabited Crown lands into the reserves. Under these circumstances, and in view of the fact that the Ubombo and Ingwavuma magistracies, as well as the Amputaland Protectorate. have been practically cut off from all communication by road from the rest of Zululand by the spread of Nagana, measures

ZULULAND. 1896. are now under consideration with the object of abolishing the reserve in the Ubombo district and of throwing open two of the other reserves in the vicinity of regular trade routes for hunting under certain restrictions.

Lung sickness, of which there are occasional outbreaks every year, was exceptionally rife amongst the cattle in many parts of the territory, and in many instances was introduced by transport riders bringing in grain from Natal. Instructions have consequently been issued to the magistrates for a stringent enforcement of the law relating to this disease, which requires the destruction of the infected animals and the isolation of cattle in affected localities.

Rinderpest.

Owing to the prevalence of rinderpest in the South African Republic, and the danger of it spreading into Zululand, detachments of the Zululand police and special constables under European supervision were stationed along the border to prevent the introduction of stock, &c., and to carry out the provisions of the proclamations issued for the purpose of checking the spread of this disease. As a precautionary measure, the adjoining colony of Natal closed its borders and erected a wire fence along the course of the Tugela and Buffalo rivers, which form the Zululand boundary with that Colony.

At the time this action was taken this Government had large supplies of mealies in Natal purchased for distribution in the districts where an actual want of food existed. Arrangements were therefore made for the shipment of these and other supplies from Durban to Port Durnford on the Zululand coast, at which place two cargoes were successfully landed and stored in sheds specially constructed for the purpose. In view of the expense of obtaining goods by sea in this manner, road transport was reverted to.

Goods sheds were built at Bonds Drift, on the Natal border, on the main road to Eshowe and Coast districts. As no oxen or stock of any kind are allowed to cross the border into Natal, goods to and from Zululand are transferred by punt across the Tugela, where fresh waggon transport is in readiness to take them forward.

The closing of the border has had the effect of cutting off our market for the sale of cattle, a fact which will probably put the Zululand Government to some loss.

Locusts.

Very considerable damage was done to crops by the immense swarms of locusts which settled throughout Zululand in the early part of the year.

In some districts the crops were completely devastated. Fortunately, however, the locusts almost entirely disappeared from the country towards the end of August, and the crops planted the second time have escaped their ravages.

Labour.

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The facilities for obtaining employment on the gold fields in the South African Republic attracted a large number of labourers from Zululand, and, as the ruling wages there are high, enabled them to earn sufficient money to tide over the famine by which the territory was threatened. The natives at the fields continue to take advantage of the labour agency in Johannesburg for remitting their wages to Zululand.

Political Rumours.

Alarming rumours of a rising of natives during the months of November and December resulted in a mustering of Boers into laager in the Vrijheid district of the South African Republic, and in the departure of a number of Boers and their families from their homesteads on the border. These disquieting rumours found a limited circulation, and all suspicions were allayed soon after they had been aroused.

In conclusion, it is to be observed that the year was a singularly unfortunate one, owing to a severe drought, a threatened incursion of rinderpest, and the destruction of crops by locusts. Notwithstanding these conditions, good order prevailed throughout the territory; the people continued to show a ready obedience to law; and the collection of hut tax was effected without difficulty in any of the districts.

Eshowe, Zululand, 1st April, 1897.

C. R. SAUNDERS,
Acting Resident Commissioner,
Zululand.

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